Nos. 17-1717 & 18-18

IN THE

Supreme Court of the United States

THE AMERICAN LEGION, ET AL., *Petitioner*,

v.

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, ET AL.,
Respondents.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK
AND PLANNING COMMISSION, *Petitioner*,

v.

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, ET AL.,
Respondents.

On Writ of Certiorari to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

JOINT APPENDIX – VOLUME I OF IV

MICHAEL A. CARVIN
JONES DAY
51 Louisiana Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 879-3939
macarvin@jonesday.com

Counsel of Record for Am. Legion Petitioners

NEAL KUMAR KATYAL
HOGAN LOVELLS US LLP
555 Thirteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
(202) 637-5600
neal.katyal@hoganlovells.com

Counsel of Record for Petitioner Md.-Nat'l Capital Park & Planning Comm'n

PETITIONS FOR WRITS OF CERTIORARI FILED: JUNE 25 & 29, 2018
CERTIORARI GRANTED: NOVEMBER 2, 2018

Additional counsel listed on inside cover

Additional Counsel:

MONICA LYNN MILLER
AMERICAN HUMANIST
ASSOCIATION
1821 Jefferson Place NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Counsel of Record for
Respondent American
Humanist Association

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UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

Docket No. 15-2597

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, ET AL.,

Plaintiffs - Appellants,

v.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION,

Defendant – Appellee

THE AMERICAN LEGION; THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND; THE AMERICAN LEGION COLMAR MANOR POST 131,

Intervenors / Defendants - Appellees.

DOCKET ENTRIES

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
12/30/2015	1	Case docketed. Originating case number: 8:14-cv-00550-DKC. Case manager: JeffNeal. [15-2597] JSN [Entered: 12/30/2015 04:46 PM]
		* * *
02/29/2016	25	BRIEF by Appellants American Humanist

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		Association, Fred Edwords, Steven Lowe and Bishop McNeill in electronic and paper format. Type of Brief: OPENING. Method of Filing Paper Copies: hand delivery. Date Paper Copies Mailed, Dispatched, or Delivered to Court: 03/01/2016. [999764545] [15-2597] Monica Miller [Entered: 02/29/2016 03:18 PM
02/29/2016	26	FULL ELECTRONIC APPENDIX and full paper appendix by Appellants American Humanist Association, Fred Edwords, Steven Lowe and Bishop McNeill. Method of Filing Paper Copies: hand delivery. Date paper copies mailed dispatched or delivered to court: 03/01/2016. [999764558] [15-2597] Monica Miller [Entered: 02/29/2016 03:24 PM]
02/29/2016	27	OPENING BRIEF (PAPER) file-stamped, on behalf of American Hu-

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		manist Association, Fred Edwords, Steven Lowe and Bishop McNeill. Number of pages: [91]. Sufficient: YES. Number of Copies: [1]. Entered on Docket Date: 03/01/2016. Received by clerk date: 03/01/2016. [999765788] [15-2597] JSN [Entered: 03/01/2016 03:57 PM]
02/29/2016	28	APPENDIX (PAPER) file-stamped, on behalf of American Humanist Association, Fred Edwords, Steven Lowe and Bishop McNeill. Total number of volumes (including any sealed): 7. Total number of pages in all volumes: 3714. Total number of sealed volumes: 0. Sufficient? Yes. CD/DVD/Other exhibit? No. Number of Copies: [1]. Entered on Docket Date: 03/01/2016. Received by clerk date: 03/01/2016. [999765791] [15-2597] JSN [Entered: 03/01/2016 03:58 PM]

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		* * *
04/04/2016	34	BRIEF by Appellees Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, The American Legion, The American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131 and The American Legion Department of Maryland in electronic and paper format. Type of Brief: RESPONSE. Method of Filing Paper Copies: mail. Date Paper Copies Mailed, Dispatched, or Delivered to Court: 04/05/2016. [999788414] [15-2597] Christopher DiPompeo [Entered: 04/04/2016 09:28 PM]
04/04/2016	35	Supplemental FULL ELECTRONIC APPENDIX and full paper appendix by Appellees Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, The American Legion, The American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131 and The American Legion Department of

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		Maryland. Method of Filing Paper Copies: mail. Date paper copies mailed dispatched or delivered to court: 04/05/2016. [999788415] [15-2597] Christopher DiPompeo [Entered: 04/04/2016 09:36 PM]
		* * *
04/04/2016	38	RESPONSE BRIEF (PAPER) file-stamped, on behalf of Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, The American Legion, The American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131 and The American Legion Department of Maryland. Number of pages: [75]. Sufficient: YES. Number of Copies: [1]. Entered on Docket Date: 04/06/2016. Received by clerk date: 04/06/2016. [999789944] [15-2597] JSN [Entered: 04/06/2016 12:00 PM]
04/04/2016	39	SUPPLEMENTAL APPENDIX (PAPER) file-stamped on behalf of

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, The American Legion, The American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131 and The American Legion Department of Maryland. Sealed volume: N. Total number of volumes (including any sealed): 1. Total number of pages in all volumes: 5. CD/DVD/Other exhibit? N. Number of Copies: [1]. Entered on Docket Date: 04/06/2016. Received by clerk date: 04/06/2016. [999789946] [15-2597] JSN [Entered: 04/06/2016 12:01 PM]
		* * *
04/18/2016	49	BRIEF by Appellants American Humanist Association, Fred Edwords, Steven Lowe and Bishop McNeill in electronic and paper format. Type of Brief: REPLY. Method of Filing Paper Copies: hand delivery. Date Paper Copies Mailed,

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		Dispatched, or Delivered to Court: 04/19/2016. [999797654] [15-2597] Monica Miller [Entered: 04/18/2016 08:50 PM]
04/18/2016	50	REPLY BRIEF (PAPER) file-stamped, on behalf of American Humanist Association, Fred Edwords, Steven Lowe and Bishop McNeill. Number of pages: [46]. Sufficient: YES. Number of Copies: [1]. Entered on Docket Date: 04/20/2016. Received by clerk date: 04/19/2016. [999799546] [15-2597] JSN [Entered: 04/20/2016 02:35 PM]
		* * *
12/07/2016	64	ORAL ARGUMENT heard before the Honorable Roger L. Gregory, James A. Wynn, Jr. and Stephanie D. Thacker. Attorneys arguing case: Monica Lynn Miller for Appellants American Humanist Association, Steven Lowe, Fred Edwords and Bishop McNeill, Christopher John

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		DiPompeo for Appellees The American Legion, The American Legion Department of Maryland and The American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131 and Mr. William Charles Dickerson for Appellee Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Courtroom Deputy: Lisa Robertson and Pam Charles. [999982458] [15-2597] LER [Entered: 12/07/2016 12:54 PM]
		* * *
10/18/2017	75	PUBLISHED AUTHORED OPINION filed. Originating case number: 8:14-cv-00550-DKC. Annotation added reflecting Supreme Court history. [1000175791]. [15-2597]--[Edited 11/07/2018 by EB] JSN [Entered: 10/18/2017 09:29 AM]
10/18/2017	76	JUDGMENT ORDER filed. Disposition method: 15-2597 opn.p.arg. Decision: Reversed and remanded. Originating case

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		number: 8:14-cv-00550-DKC. Entered on Docket Date: 10/18/2017. [1000175800] Copies to all parties and the district court/agency.. [15-2597] JSN [Entered: 10/18/2017 09:32 AM]
		* * *
11/01/2017	78	PETITION for rehearing en banc (FRAP 35) by Appellees The American Legion, The American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131 and The American Legion Department of Maryland. [15-2597] Christopher DiPompeo [Entered: 11/01/2017 08:47 PM]
11/01/2017	79	PETITION for rehearing en banc (FRAP 35) by Appellee Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. [15-2597] Adrian Gardner [Entered: 11/01/2017 11:53 PM]
		* * *

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
11/20/2017	89	RESPONSE/ANSWER to rehearing and rehearing en banc by American Humanist Association, Fred Edwords, Steven Lowe and Bishop McNeill. [15-2597] Monica Miller [Entered: 11/20/2017 03:09 PM]
03/01/2018	90	(ENTRY RESTRICTED) Published Court order filed [1000250642] denying Motion for rehearing en banc [78], denying Motion for rehearing en banc [79]. Copies to all parties.. [15-2597]--[Edited 03/02/2018 by JSN] JSN [Entered: 03/01/2018 03:33 PM]
		* * *
03/12/2018	98	Mandate issued. Referencing: [76] Judgment Order, [75] Published Authored Opinion. Originating case number: 8:14-cv-00550-DKC.. [15-2597] MR [Entered: 03/12/2018 08:52 AM]

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
(GREENBELT)

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, ET AL.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION,

Defendant

THE AMERICAN LEGION, ET AL.,

Intervenors.

DOCKET ENTRIES

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
02/25/2014	1	COMPLAINT *with Exhibits* A- H against Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (Filing fee $400 receipt number 0416-4597844.), filed by American Humanist Association, Steven Lowe, Bishop McNeill, Fred Edwords. (Doty, Daniel) (Entered: 02/25/2014)

* * *

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
04/28/2014	12	ANSWER to 1 Complaint, by Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. (Dickerson, William)(Entered: 04/28/2014)
		* * *
05/01/2014	14	MOTION to Intervene by The American Legion, The American Legion Department of Maryland, The American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131 Responses due by5/19/2014 (Attachments: #1 Text of Proposed Order) (DiPompeo, Christopher)(Entered: 05/01/2014)
05/01/2014	15	Memorandum re 14 MOTION to Intervene filed by The American Legion, The American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131, The American Legion Department of Maryland. (Attachments: #1 Exhibit A, #2 Exhibit B, #3 Exhibit C, #4 Exhibit D, #5 Exhibit E, #6Exhibit F, #7 Exhibit G, #8 Exhibit H, #9 Exhib-

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		it I, #10 Exhibit J, #11 Exhibit K, #12 Exhibit L, #13 Exhibit M) (DiPompeo, Christopher)(Entered: 05/01/2014)
		* * *
05/01/17	17	*Defendant-Intervenors'* ANSWER to 1 Complaint, by The American Legion, The American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131, The American Legion Department of Maryland. (DiPompeo, Christopher) (Entered: 05/01/2014)
		* * *
09/18/2014	46	MEMORANDUM OPINION. Signed by Chief Judge Deborah K. Chasanow on 9/18/14. (sat, Chambers) (Entered: 09/18/2014)
09/18/2014	47	ORDER GRANTING IN PART 11 motion to appear jointly as amicus curiae and for leave to file an amicus curiae memorandum, ADDING the following individuals and organ-

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		ization to the docket as amici curiae supporting Defendant: Richard Douglas; Kevin Young; Lori-Young; HarryPitt; Cheryl Pitt; John Dollymore; Christy Dollymore; Ellen J. McNulty; Lynn Cook; Lawrence Wenzel; Claude E. Patrone; and the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, GRANTING 14 motion to intervene, and ADDING The American Legion, The American Legion Department of Maryland, and the American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131 as Intervenor Defendants. Signed by Chief Judge Deborah K. Chasanow on 9/18/14. (sat, Chambers)(Entered: 09/18/2014)
		* * *
05/01/2015	78	MOTION for Summary Judgment by American Humanist Association, Fred Edwords, Steven Lowe, Bishop McNeill Responses due by

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		5/18/2015 (Attachments: #1 Statement of Undisputed Facts, #2 Memorandum of Law, # 3D. Amended Ints., #4 D. Amended RFAs, #5 Legion Ints., #6 Legion RFAs, #7 Piehler Expert Witness Report, #8 Piehler Rebuttal Report, #9 Edwords Dep., #10 McNeill Dep., #11 Lowe Dep., #12 Quarrick Dep., #13 Stachura Dep., #14 Waters Dep., #15 Lewis Dep., #16 Onderdonk Dep., #17 Myers Dep., #18 Holdcraft Dep., #19 Piehler Dep., #20 Green Dep., #21 Douglas Dep., #22 Bradley Dep., #23Affidavit Jason Torpy (MAAF), #24 Affidavit Michael Weinstein (MRFF), #25 Exhibit 1, #26 Exhibit 2, #27 Exhibit 3, #28 Exhibit 4, #29 Exhibit 5, #30 Exhibit 6, #31 Exhibit 7, #32 Exhibit 8, #33 Exhibit 9, #34 Exhibit 10, #35 Exhibit 11, #36 Exhibit 12, # 37 Exhibit 13, #38 Exhibit 14, #39 Exhibit 15, #40 Exhib-

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
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DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		#94 Exhibit 70, #95 Exhibit 71, #96 Exhibit 72, #97 Exhibit 73) (Miller, Monica) (Entered: 05/01/2015)
		* * *
05/05/2015	80	Corrected MOTION for Summary Judgment by American Humanist Association, Fred Edwords, Steven Lowe, Bishop McNeill Responses due by 5/22/2015 (Attachments: #1 Memorandum of Law, #2 Def. Amend. Ints, #3 Def. Amend. RFAs, #4 Legion Ints., #5 Legion RFAs, #6 Piehler Expert Witness Report, #7 Piehler Rebuttal, #8 Edwords Dep., #9 McNeill Dep., # 10 Lowe Dep., #11 Quarrick Dep., #12 Stachura Dep., #13 Waters Dep., #14 Lewis Dep., #15 Onderdonk Dep., #16 Myers Dep., #17 Holdcraft Dep., #18 Piehler Dep., #19 Green Dep., #20 Douglas Dep., #21 BradleyDep., #22 Affidavit Jason Torpy, #23 Affidavit Michael

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		Weinstein, #24 Exhibit 1, #25 Exhibit 2, #26 Exhibit 3, #27 Exhibit 4, #28 Exhibit 5, #29 Exhibit 6, #30 Exhibit 7, #31 Exhibit 8, #32 Exhibit 9, #33 Exhibit 10, #34 Exhibit 11, #35 Exhibit 12, #36 Exhibit 13, #37 Exhibit 14, #38 Exhibit 15, #39 Exhibit 16, #40 Exhibit 17, #41 Exhibit 18, #42 Exhibit 19, #43 Exhibit 20, #44 Exhibit 21, #45 Exhibit 22, #46 Exhibit 23, #47 Exhibit 24, #48 Exhibit 25, #49 Exhibit 26, #50 Exhibit 27, #51 Exhibit 28, #52 Exhibit 29, #53 Exhibit 30, #54 Exhibit 31, #55 Exhibit 32, #56 Exhibit 33, #57 Exhibit 34, #58 Exhibit 35, #59 Exhibit 36, #60 Exhibit 37, #61 Exhib it 38, #62 Exhibit 39, #63 Exhibit 40, #64 Exhibit 41, #65 Exhibit 42, #66 Exhibit 43, #67 Exhibit 44, #68 Exhibit 45, #69 Exhibit 46, #70 Exhibit 47, #71 Exhibit 48, #72 Exhibit 49, #73 Exhibit 50, #74 Exhibit 51, #75 Exhibit 52, #76 Exhib-

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		it 53, #77 Exhibit 54, #78 Exhibit 55, #79 Exhibit 56, #80 Exhibit 57, #81 Exhibit 58, #82 Exhibit 59, #83 Exhibit 60, #84 Exhibit 61, #85 Exhibit 62, #86 Exhibit 63, #87 Exhibit 64, #88 Exhibit 65, #89 Exhibit 66, #90 Exhibit 67, #91 Exhibit 68, #92 Exhibit 69, #93 Exhibit 70, #94 Exhibit 71, #95 Exhibit 72, #96 Exhibit 73) (Miller, Monica) (Entered: 05/05/2015)
		* * *
06/10/2015	83	Cross MOTION for Summary Judgment by The American Legion, The American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131, The American Legion Department of Maryland Responses due by 6/29/2015 (Attachments: #1 Memorandum in Support of Cross-Motion for Summary Judgment and Response To Plaintiffs Motion for Summary Judgment, #2 Exhibit 1, #3Exhibit 2, #4 Exhibit 3, #5 Exhibit 4, #6

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		Exhibit 5, #7 Exhibit 6, #8 Exhibit 7, #9 Exhibit 8, #10 Exhibit 9, #11 Exhibit 10, #12 Exhibit 11, #13 Exhibit 12, #14 Exhibit 13, #15 Exhibit 14, #16 Exhibit 15, #17 Exhibit 16, #18 Exhibit 17, #19 Exhibit 18, #20 Exhibit 19, #21 Exhibit 20, #22 Exhibit 21, #23 Exhibit 22, #24 Exhibit 23, #25 Exhibit 24, #26 Exhibit 25, #27 Exhibit 26, #28 Exhibit 27, #29 Exhibit 28, #30 Exhibit 29, #31 Exhibit 30, #32 Exhibit 31, #33 Exhibit 32, #34 Exhibit 33, #35 Exhibit 34, #36 Exhibit 35, #37 Exhibit 36, #38 Exhibit 37, #39 Exhibit 38, #40 Exhibit 39, #41 Exhibit 40, #42 Exhibit 41, #43 Exhibit 42, #44 Exhibit 43, #45 Exhibit 44, #46 Exhibit 45, #47 Exhibit 46, #48 Exhibit 47, #49 Exhibit 48, #50 Exhibit 49, #51 Exhibit 50, #52 Exhibit 51, #53 Exhibit 52, #54 Exhibit 53, #55 Exhibit 54, #56 Exhibit 55, #57 Exhibit 56, #58 Exhibit 57, #59 Exhibit 58,

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		#60 Exhibit 59, #61 Exhibit 60, #62 Exhibit 61, #63 Exhibit 62, #64 Exhibit 63, #65 Exhibit 64, #66 Exhibit 65, #67 Exhibit 66, #68 Exhibit 67, #69 Exhibit 68) (DiPompeo, Christopher) (Entered: 06/10/2015)
		* * *
06/11/2015	86	Cross MOTION for Summary Judgment by Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Responses due by 6/29/2015 (Attachments: #1 Exhibit, #2 Citations, #3 Table of Contents, #4 Exhibit Chap 432 MGA, #5 Exhibit State Roads Resolution, #6 Exhibit Deed to MNCPPC, #7 Exhibit AL Resolution, #8 Exhibit Stachura Depo, #9 Exhibit Historic Sites & Trust, #10 Exhibit Email from A Marcavitch, #11 Exhibit Park Service Photo, #12 Exhibit Waters Depo, #13 Exhibit Piehler Depo, #14 Exhibit Torpy Email 1, #15 Exhibit Torpy Email 2, #16

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		Exhibit Myers Letter, #17 Exhibit Lowe Email, #18 Exhibit Antitheists FB Comments, #19 Exhibit Busch Email, #20 Exhibit Maguire Email, #21 Exhibit Mann Email, #22 Exhibit Parks Email, #23 Exhibit Speckhardt Email, #24 Exhibit Support for Memorial, #25 Exhibit Day Affidavit, #26 Exhibit Winter 1, #27 Exhibit Winter 2, #28 Exhibit Winter 3, #29 Exhibit Holdcraft) (Harvin, Tracey) (Entered: 06/11/2015)
		* * *
07/06/2015	90	RESPONSE in Opposition re 86 Cross MOTION for Summary Judgment, 83 Cross MOTION for Summary Judgment (Replies due by 7/23/2015.), REPLY to Response to Motion re 80 Corrected MOTION for Summary Judgment, 86 Cross MOTION for Summary Judgment, 83 Cross MOTION for Summary

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		Judgment filed by American Humanist Association, Fred Edwords, Steven Lowe, Bishop McNeill. (Attachments: #1 Exhibit A (2012 Letter), #2 Exhibit B (AHA Facebook), #3 Exhibit C (AHA Facebook), #4 Exhibit D (AHA Facebook), #5 Exhibit E (Piehler, 2005), #6 Exhibit F (American Legion Amicus: FFRF v. Weber), #7 Exhibit G (Earley Studio), #8 Exhibit H (Methodist Church of Hyattsville), #9 Exhibit I (SUF cases)) (Miller, Monica) (Entered: 07/06/2015)
08/10/2015	91	RESPONSE in Opposition re 86 Cross MOTION for Summary Judgment filed by Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Replies due by 8/27/2015. (Attachments: #1 Exhibit Exhibits 25 - 27) (Harvin, Tracey) (Entered: 08/10/2015)
08/10/2015	92	REPLY to Response to Motion re 80 Corrected

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		MOTION for Summary Judgment, 86 Cross MOTION for Summary Judgment, 83 Cross MOTION for Summary Judgment filed by The American Legion, The American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131, The American Legion Department of Maryland. (Attachments: #1 Exhibit A, #2 Exhibit B, #3 Exhibit C, #4 Exhibit D, #5 Exhibit E, #6 Exhibit F, #7 Exhibit G) (DiPompeo, Christopher) Modified on 8/13/2015 (aos, Deputy Clerk). (Courtesy Copyrec'd/fwd to Chambers 8/13/2015) (Entered: 08/10/2015)
		* * *
11/30/2015	102	MEMORANDUM OPINION. Signed by Judge Deborah K. Chasanow on 11/30/2015. (sat, Chambers) (Entered:11/30/2015)
11/30/2015	103	ORDER DENYING 80 motion for summary judgment, GRANTING 86

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		and 83 motions for summary judgment, DENYING 94, 95, and 96 motions for leave to file memoranda of amici curiae, DECLARING that the ownership, maintenance and display of the Monument by the Commission do not violate the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, ENTERING judgment against Plaintiffs and in favor of Defendants, and DIRECTING the Clerk to CLOSE this case. Signed by Judge Deborah K. Chasanow on 11/30/2015. (sat, Chambers) (Entered:11/30/2015)
12/28/2015	104	NOTICE OF APPEAL as to 103 Order on Motion for Summary Judgment,,,,,,,,, Order on Motion for Leave to File,,,,,,,, 102 Memorandum Opinion by American Humanist Association, Fred Edwords, Steven-Lowe, Bishop McNeill. Filing fee $505, receipt-

DATE	DOCKET NUMBER	PROCEEDINGS
		number 0416-5775536. Appeal Record due-by2/1/2016. (Doty, Daniel) (Entered:12/28/2015)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

Case No. cv-14-550

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, STEVEN LOWE, FRED EDWORDS, AND BISHOP MCNEILL

Plaintiffs,

v.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION,

Defendant.

Filed Feb. 25, 2014

COMPLAINT

Seeking to protect their civil liberties and constitutional rights, the plaintiffs identified above (collectively, the "Plaintiffs"), as their complaint against the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (the "Defendant), allege as follows:

NATURE OF THE CLAIMS

1. This action challenges the constitutionality of the Defendant's ownership, maintenance and prominent display on public property of a massive Christian cross (the "Bladensburg Cross") as a violation of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, as applied to Maryland by the Fourteenth Amendment.

2. The Plaintiffs seek injunctive and declaratory relief and nominal damages under 42 U.S.C. §1983 against the Defendant to redress this Establishment Clause violation, together with recovery of attorney's fees and costs under 42 U.S.C. §1988(b).

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. This case arises under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and presents a federal question within this Court's jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§1331 and 1343(a)(3). The Court has the authority to issue a declaratory judgment under 28 U.S.C. §2201 and to provide injunctive relief and award nominal damages under 28 U.S.C. §1343 and Fed. R. Civ. P. 65.

4. Venue is proper within this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b)(2) because the events giving rise to the Plaintiffs' claims occurred herein.

PARTIES

5. The American Humanist Association ("AHA") is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization incorporated in Illinois with a principal place of business at 1777 T Street N.W., Washington, D.C. AHA is a membership organization, with over 170 chapters and affiliates nationwide, including several in Maryland, and over 24,800 members and supporters, which include residents of Prince George's County who frequently encounter the Bladensburg Cross. AHA advocates progressive values and equality for humanists, atheists, and freethinkers. AHA's legal center is dedicated to advancing and preserving the constitutional mandate of separation of church and state, the constitutional protections found in the Bill of Rights, and, in particular, the First Amendment to the

United States Constitution. AHA brings this action to assert the First Amendment rights of its members.

6. Steven Lowe ("Mr. Lowe) is a resident of the District of Columbia and is a member of the AHA. He has lived in Washington, D.C. since 1982. Mr. Lowe first encountered the Bladensburg Cross in 1982. Mr. Lowe lives approximately four miles away from the Bladensburg Cross and passes it on average, about once a month, usually in his car. He typically passes by the cross when he does errands, visits commercial establishments in the area of the Bladensburg Cross or beyond it, or when he travels to visit friends. Occasionally, Mr. Lowe encounters the cross on his bike ride from his house to the nearby Bladensburg Waterfront Park.

7. Due to the size of the cross, Mr. Lowe believes it cannot be ignored or overlooked. Its location, in the middle of a major road intersection of the Maryland State road system, clearly makes it the property of and a statement by the State government. He believes that the Bladensburg Cross associates a Christian religious symbol with the State and gives the impression that the State supports and approves of Christianity, as opposed to other religions, and that the state may even prefer Christians and Christianity over other religions. As a non-Christian, Mr. Lowe is personally offended and feels excluded by this governmental message. He opposes this appearance of governmental favoritism for religion and for a particular religion, Christianity. Because it is a memorial for fallen soldiers who died as patriots not missionaries or crusaders, Mr. Lowe believes a more fitting symbol of their sacrifice would be a symbol of

the Nation for which they fought and died, not a particular religion.

8. Mr. Lowe was shocked when he first saw the cross and it upsets him whenever he passes it. Mr. Lowe is a graduate of the University of Virginia and he agrees strongly with its founder, Thomas Jefferson's, principle of separation of church and state; that government should be neutral towards and not exhibit any favoritism or involvement with religions. Mr. Lowe does not wish to encounter the Bladensburg Cross in the future.

9. Fred Edwords ("Mr. Edwords") is a resident of Prince George's County, Maryland, and a member of AHA. Mr. Edwords has had unwelcome contact with the Bladensburg Cross on several occasions and objects to the governmental promotion of and affiliation with religion it embodies. Mr. Edwords does not wish to encounter the Bladensburg Cross in the future.

10. Bishop McNeill ("Mr. McNeill') is a resident of Beltsville, Maryland and has lived there for at least eight months. He first encountered the Bladensburg Cross in July 2013. Mr. McNeill has had unwelcome contact with the cross at least four times. Each time he encountered it, he was traveling to local stores and businesses in the surrounding area. Mr. McNeill sees the Bladensburg Cross as a religious symbol and objects to the governmental promotion of and affiliation with religion it embodies. Mr. McNeill does not wish to encounter the Bladensburg Cross in the future.

FACTS

11. The Defendant is an independent "body politic and corporate and is an agency of the State of Maryland pursuant to MD Code, Land Use, § 15-101.

12. The Bladensburg Cross stands on a small island of property (the "Property"), approximately a third of an acre in size.

13. The Property serves as a median between roadways in Bladensburg, Maryland (the "Towe).

14. The Bladensburg Cross is also referred to as the "Peace Cross."

15. The Bladensburg Cross stands 40 feet high, with arms extending 5 feet from the center. It rests on a large rectangular platform.

16. Affixed to this platform is a small plaque (the "Plaque) listing the names of county residents who died in World War I.

17. An image of the Bladensburg Cross and its environs is included as Exhibit A.

18. There are no sidewalks on the Property or any crosswalks connecting the Property to the other side of the roads which surround it.

19. There is no legal way for a pedestrian to cross the street to approach the Property. Cars cannot legally stop and park at the curbs on the edge of the property.

20. The Plaque has not been legible from a passing car or by a pedestrian standing across the road.

21. Even if approached on foot, the plaque has been obscured by bushes, as shown in the image included as Exhibit B.

22. In the center of the cross is a an emblem of a gold star with the letters "U.S." in its center, as shown in the image included as Exhibit C.

23. This star emblem appears to expressly affiliate the United States government with the Bladensburg Cross.

24. The Bladensburg Cross was erected on land owned at the time by the Town. The Town acquired ownership of the Property by force of Chapter 428, 1870 Laws of Maryland, which transferred certain land to the Commissioners of Bladensburg.

25. The history of the Bladensburg Cross begins in 1918. A group called the Prince George's County Memorial Committee began in that year to raise funds to construct a cross on the Property.

26. Contributors signed the following pledge: "We, the citizens of Maryland, trusting in God, the Supreme Ruler of the universe, pledge faith in our brothers who gave their all in the world war to make the world safe for democracy. Their mortal bodies have turned to dust, but their spirit lives to guide us through life in the way of godliness, justice and liberty. With our motto, One God, One Country and one Flag,' we contribute to this memorial cross commemorating the memory of those who have not died in vain." See Exhibit D for a copy of this pledge.

27. The Bladensburg Cross was formally dedicated on July 12, 1925.

28. As part of the dedication ceremonies, Representative Stephen W. Gambrill of the Fifth Maryland District delivered the dedication address, in which he stated: "You men of Prince Georges county fought for the sacred right of all to live in peace and security

and by the token of this cross, symbolic of Calvary, let us keep fresh the memory of our boys who died for a righteous cause."[1]

29. The reference to "Calvary" is a Christian one. The Bible names it as the place of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, and is used by Christian to evoke the sectarian significance of this event in their religion. The crucifixion is central to Christian theology.

30. The dedication ceremony also included prayers.

31. An invocation was given by Rev. A.J. Carey, pastor of St. Jerome's Catholic Church.

32. Rev. B.P. Robertson, pastor of the First Baptist church pronounced a benediction.[2]

33. Prince George's County held a memorial service in 1929 at the Bladensburg Cross. As part of the ceremony, prayers were offered by the Rev. Morris W. Derr, rector of St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal Parish.[3]

34. An article in the Washington Post, dated July 25, 1931 reported the following: "Head of Church Army Will Be Preacher Here. The special preacher at the Peace Cross services for the first three Sundays in August will be Capt. Frank B. Mountford, head of the Church Army in the United States and one of the outstanding lay evangelists in this country."

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[1] Legion Dedicates Bladensburg War Memorial Cross, *The Washington Post;* July 13, 1925.

[2] *Id.*

[3] War Dead Honored by Prince Georges, *The Washington Post* (1923-1954); May 31, 1929.

35. Although the State of Maryland had long asserted that it owned the Property, a dispute arose in the early 1930s.

36. In 1935, the General Assembly of Maryland authorized the State Roads Commission to "investigate the ownership and possessory rights of the property" and declared that "if there is outstanding ownership or right of possession in any one to any part of said tract, to authorize and direct said Commission to acquire the same and to direct the Board of Public Works to transfer a sufficient sum to said Commission for payment of same."[4]

37. In 1956, any doubt as to ownership of the Property was settled by a Prince George's County Circuit Court ruling that title was vested in the State of Maryland.[5]

38. The State Roads Commission subsequently deeded the Bladensburg Cross and the Property to the Defendant in 1960, after which the Defendant carried out restoration work on the monument.[6]

39. Another article in the Washington Post, dated May 29, 1931, provided the details for an elaborate Memorial Day celebration to be held at Marlboro and at the Peace Cross.

40. The celebration at the Peace Cross would include religious "services" by the American Legion. A

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[4] 1935 Md. Laws Ch. 432.

[5] Land Records, Prince George's County, Maryland, liber 2821, folio 1.

[6] Land Records, Prince George's County, Maryland, liber 2511, folio 99.

Rev. Clyde Brown was scheduled to "deliver the invocation."

41. Services held by the American Legion included a religious component, as is required by their own constitution and the American Legion "Manual of Ceremonies," which was adopted by the Legion in 1921. This manual prescribes the prayers that shall be delivered as part of a Memorial Day Service.[7]

42. On May 30, 1940, the Washington Post reported: "Peace Cross To Be Scene Of Rites Today." The article stated that on Memorial Day "services would be held at the cross," including by the American Legion.

43. On May 30, 1949, the Washington Post reported that "memorial services" would be held at the Bladensburg Cross.

44. The Defendant is now the owner of the Bladensburg Cross and the Property on which it stands.

45. In 1965, the Defendant created a lighting system for the Bladensburg Cross and illuminated it on April 1, 1965 during a dedication ceremony.[8]

46. The Bladensburg Cross is now lit every night.

47. Three monuments were added later to a separate area in the general vicinity of the Bladensburg Cross.

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[7] http://www.legion.org/sites/legion.org/files/legion/publications/officers_guide.pdf

[8] Lights for Peace Cross, *Washington Post, Times Herald (1959-1973)*, April 2, 1965.

48. None of these new monuments resemble the size and prominence of the cross.

49. Each new monument is situated more than 200 feet from the Bladensburg Cross. (See Exhibit E).

50. These later-added monuments include a 9/11 Memorial, dedicated in 2006,[9] a Korea-Vietnam Memorial, unveiled in 1983, and a World War II Memorial, dedicated in approximately 1960.

51. The 9/11 monument stands less than a foot-tall and its text is facing away from the road. (See Exhibit F).

52. The Korea-Vietnam monument stands about 4 feet tall. (See Exhibit G).

53. The Second World War Memorial is about 10 feet tall. Its text is illegible from the vantage point of a driver passing by. (See Exhibit H).

CAUSES OF ACTION

54. All preceding allegations are incorporated herein by reference.

55. The Defendant's ownership, maintenance and prominent display on public property of the Bladensburg Cross amounts to the endorsement and advancement of religion (and, specifically, an endorsement of and affiliation with Christianity) in violation of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

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[9] http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/09/20/AR2006092000964.html

56. The Defendant's ownership, maintenance and prominent display on public property of the Bladensburg Cross lacks a secular purpose in violation of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

57. The Defendant's ownership, maintenance and prominent display on public property of the Bladensburg Cross fosters excessive governmental entanglement with religion in violation of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

58. The Defendant acted under color of state law in violating the First Amendment as described herein in violation of 42 U.S.C. §1983.

RELIEF SOUGHT

The Plaintiffs demand that this court grant the following relief:

i. A declaratory judgment that the Defendant's ownership, maintenance and prominent display on public property of the Bladensburg Cross violates the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and is a violation of the Plaintiffs' constitutional rights under 42 U.S.C. §1983;

ii. An injunction enjoining the Defendant (and its successors) from displaying the Bladensburg Cross on public property or otherwise in violation of the Establishment Clause;

iii. A judgment in the Plaintiffs' favor for nominal damages;

iv. An award to the Plaintiffs of their reasonable costs, disbursements and attorneys' fees as allowed

by law from the Defendant pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §1988; and

v. An award of such other and further relief as the Court shall deem just.

Dated this 26th day of February, 2014.

/s/ Daniel P. Doty
Daniel P. Doty
(Fed. Bar No. 28247)
Law Office of Daniel P. Doty, P.A.
5500 Harford Road, Suite 202
Baltimore, Maryland 21214
410.615.0902
ddoty@dotylawoffice.com

/s/ Monica Miller
Monica L. Miller
American Humanist Association
1777 T Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20009
phone (202) 238-9088 /
facsimile (202) 238-9003
mmiller@americanhumanist.org
CA Bar: 288343 / DC Bar: 101625
(*pro hac vice* to be filed)

/s/ David A. Niose
David A. Niose
Law Offices of David Niose
348 Lunenburg Street, Suite 202,
Fitchburg, MA 01420
978-343-0800
dniose@nioselaw.com
Mass Bar: 556484
(*pro hac vice* to be filed)

Attorneys for the Plaintiffs

EXHIBIT A

EXHIBIT B

EXHIBIT C

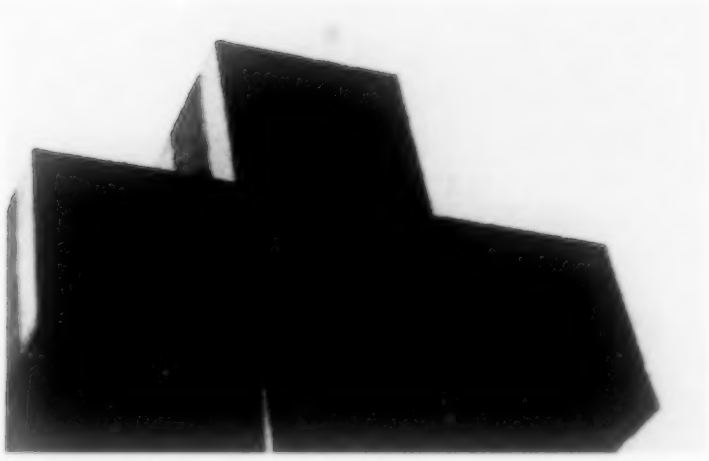
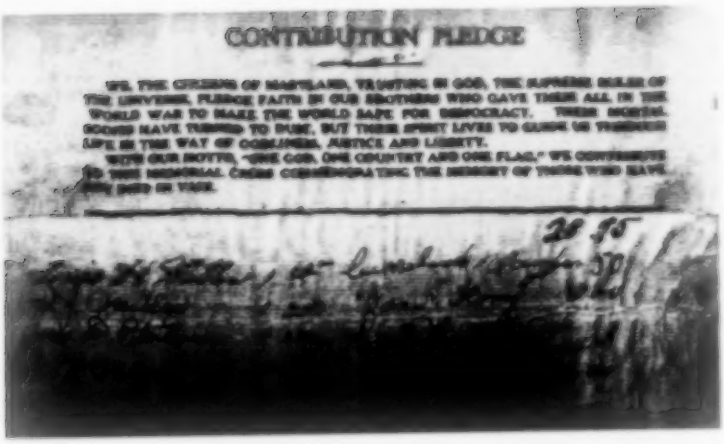


EXHIBIT D

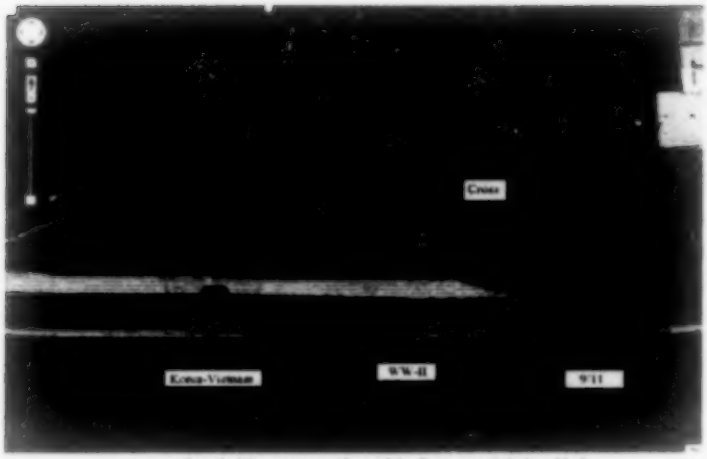


CONTRIBUTION PLEDGE

WE, THE CITIZENS OF MARYLAND, TRUSTING IN GOD, THE SUPREME RULER OF THE UNIVERSE, PLEDGE FAITH TO OUR BROTHERS WHO GAVE THEIR ALL IN THE WORLD WAR TO MAKE THE WORLD SAFE FOR DEMOCRACY. THEIR BODIES SOONS HAVE TURNED TO DUST, BUT THEIR SPIRIT LIVES TO GUIDE US TOWARDS LIFE IN THE WAY OF GODLINESS, JUSTICE AND LIBERTY.

WITH OUR MOTTO, "ONE GOD, ONE COUNTRY AND ONE FLAG," WE CONSECRATE TO THIS MEMORIAL CROSS COMMEMORATING THE MEMORY OF THOSE WHO HAVE [illegible] DIED IN VAIN.

EXHIBIT E



Google Maps image taken of the Property (labels added)

EXHIBIT F

EXHIBIT G

EXHIBIT H

IN THE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
SOUTHERN DIVISION

Case No. 8:14cv-14-550

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, ET AL.,
Plaintiffs,

vs.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK &
PLANNING COMMISSION,
Defendant.

Filed Apr. 28, 2014

ANSWER

Comes now Defendant, The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (the "Commission"), by and through undersigned counsel and for answer to the Complaint in this action responds to the consecutively numbered paragraphs of the Complaint as follows:

1. Paragraph 1 contains legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent any response may be required, the allegations contained in paragraph 1 are denied.

2. Paragraph 2 contains legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent any response may be required, the allegations contained in paragraph 2 are denied.

3. Paragraph 3 contains legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent any response may be required, the allegations contained in paragraph 3 are denied.

4. Admitted that the Plaintiffs claims relate to property within this judicial district.

5. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 5 and on that basis they are denied.

6. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 6 and on that basis they are denied.

7. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to what Plaintiff Lowe believes and on that basis such allegations are denied. All other allegations contained in paragraph 7 are denied.

8. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to what Plaintiff Lowe believes and on that basis such allegations are denied. All other allegations contained in paragraph 8 are denied.

9. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to what Plaintiff Edwords believes and on that basis such allegations are denied. All other allegations contained in paragraph 9 are denied.

10. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to what Plaintiff McNeill believes and on that basis such allegations are denied. All other allegations contained in paragraph 10 are denied.

11. Paragraph 11 contains legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent any response may be required.

12. Defendant admits that the war memorial popularly known as and hereinafter referred to as the "Peace Cross" sits on land of the type described.

13. Admitted.

14. Admitted that the identified war memorial is popularly referred to as the "Peace Cross".

15. Admitted that the Peace Cross has the approximate dimensions identified.

16. Admitted that the Peace Cross incorporates a plaque listing the names of fallen heroes from Prince George's County.

17. Admitted that Exhibit A contains photographs of the Peace Cross.

18. Admitted that there are no paved sidewalks or painted, specifically demarcated crosswalks on the Property as defined in the Complaint

19. Paragraph 19 contains legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent any response may be required, the allegations contained in paragraph 19 are denied.

20. Denied that the plaque is illegible.

21. Denied that the plaque is obscured by bushes.

22. Admitted that the Peace Cross has a star that includes gold coloring and that the Peace Cross also has the letters "US" on it.

23. Denied.

24. Paragraph 24 contains legal conclusions to which no response is required.

25. Admitted.

26. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 26 and on that basis they are denied.

27. Admitted.

28. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 28 and on that basis they are denied.

29. See response to Paragraph 28.

30. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 30 and on that basis they are denied.

31. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 31 and on that basis they are denied.

32. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 32 and on that basis they are denied.

33. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 33 and on that basis they are denied.

34. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 34 and on that basis they are denied.

35. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 35 and on that basis they are denied.

36. Admitted that the law speaks for itself.

37. Denied.

38. Admitted that the State Roads Commission agreed to convey the Peace Cross property to the Commission's stewardship in 1960.

39. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 39 and on that basis they are denied.

40. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 40 and on that basis they are denied.

41. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 41 and on that basis they are denied.

42. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 42 and on that basis they are denied.

43. Defendant is without sufficient information to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in Paragraph 43 and on that basis they are denied.

44. Admitted Defendant holds an interest in the property upon which the Peace Cross stands.

45. Admitted that the Commission installed a lighting system at the Peace Cross property.

46. Admitted that the Peace Cross and other war memorials are regularly lit at night.

47. Admitted that other war memorials were added on adjacent property at the park.

48. Admitted that all other monuments on the adjacent properties are unique.

49. Admitted that one or more of the other war memorials on the adjacent properties are not within 200 feet of the Peace Cross.

50. Admitted that the war memorials on adjacent properties include those described in Paragraph 50.

51. Admitted that the text of the uniquely designed memorial does not face the roadway.

52. Denied.

53. Denied.

54. Paragraph 54 incorporates allegations already answered. To the extent any response may be required, Defendant incorporates its responses to the preceding paragraphs.

* * *

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
GREENBELT DIVISION

Civil Action No. 8:14-cv-550-DKC

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, ET AL.

Plaintiffs,

v.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND
PLANNING COMMISSION,

Defendant.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
700 NORTH PENNSYLVANIA STREET
P.O. BOX 1055
INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46206,

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND
101 NORTH GAY STREET, ROOM E
BALTIMORE, MD 21202
BALTIMORE CITY, AND

THE AMERICAN LEGION COLMAR MANOR POST 131
4103 LAWRENCE STREET
COLMAR MANOR, MD 20722
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY,

Movant-Intervenors.

Filed May 1, 2014

MOTION TO INTERVENE

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* * *

EXHIBIT B

MEMORIAL DAY

AT PEACE CROSS MEMORIAL

BLADENSBURG, MARYLAND

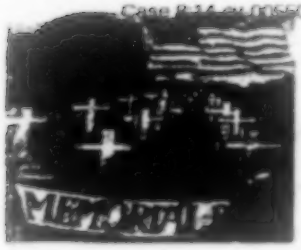
Sponsored by:

American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131

and the

Town of Bladensburg Patriotic Committee

HONORING ALL
UNITED STATES NAVY
THAT SERVED



PROGRAM

Presentation of Colors:	American Legion Post 131 S.A.L.
Pledge of Allegiance:	Everyone
National Anthem:	Lt. Colonel Kiker
Invocation:	Keith Hurst, Adjutant Post 131
Call to Order:	Phillip Holdcraft, Commander Post 131
Recognition of Guest:	Marion Hoffman, Patriotic Committee
	Phillip Holdcraft, Commander Post 131
Welcome:	Walter James, Mayor
	Town of Bladensburg
Guest Speaker:	Steven Brennan, Finance Officer Post 108
	Major, U.S. Army Retired, 82nd Airborne
Floral Tributes:	TBA
Taps:	Lt. Colonel Kiker
Benediction:	Keith Hurst, Adjutant Post 131
Invitation to Lunch:	Phillip Holdcraft, Commander Post 131
Retirement of Colors:	American Legion Post 131 S.A.L.

THANK YOU FOR COMING

DKC Document 15-2 Filed 05/

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

BLADENSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

BLADENSBURG DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS

BLADENSBURG PATRIOTIC COMMITTEE
MARION HOFFMAN

* * *

EXHIBIT C

NEWS AND NOTES
Prince George's County Historical Society
November 1997
Our 4th Year
XXVI Number 8

NOVEMBER 1 DECLARED HERITAGE DAY

At the September 13, 1997 meeting of the Board of Directors of the Prince George's County Historical Society the following resolution was approved:

Whereas, Prince George's County has a rich cultural and heritage background manifested in a great variety of sites and resources.

Whereas, the successful celebration of the recent Tricentennial increased public awareness of and organizational participation in heritage activities throughout the County,

Whereas, this awareness and participation should be continued and expanded by promotion and coordination among historic sites and heritage organizations,

Whereas, this involvement should be made known to all residents to increase their interest and knowledge in this rich heritage,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Prince George's County Historical Society declares that Saturday,

November 1, 1997 be known as **Heritage Day at the Malls**

CONCERNING VETERANS' DAY

Early in the years of the Great Depression, as a first grader, the real meaning of November 11th was impressed upon this writer At l lam the school bell was rung and the children of all grades stood beside their desks for a minute of silence in commemoration of the Armistice which brought the Great War of 1914-1918 to an end.

Since 1918 the United States has been engaged in three other major conflicts and Armistice Day has been changed to Veterans' Day in honor of all of those who have served. This change is understandable. It is difficult to accept, however, the latest tampering with Veterans' Day We refer to placing it on a Monday in October in order to provide a three-day holiday which is also becoming a gigantic sale day. In competition with the birthday of George Washington. Hopefully, without sounding too old-fashioned or sentimental, it is our feeling that it would be better to designate the October date as simply a "Business Holiday.' and not desecrate the memory of those who served by calling it Veterans' Day Under the circumstances where the meaning of the holiday is almost completely lost, better no Veterans Day at all. [*Editor's note*: The author of this article must have been very pleased when the celebration of Veteran's Day was restored to November 11.]

Harking back to the Great War of 1914-1918, it is interesting to note that there are two memorials in Prince George's county which were erected to the memory of all of the citizens of the County who lost

their lives in that conflict In 1919, just one year after the Armistice, the county erected a monument (fountain) on-the Court House lawn, bordering Main Street, in Upper Marlboro. In recent years the location of the monument was changed to the far left side of the lawn, set back from the street.

The Upper Marlboro monument bears the following Inscription:

THE RIGHT WILL PREVAIL

This monument perpetuates the memory of the sons and daughters of Prince George's County who true to the traditions of their County and the traditions of their forefathers, served their county in the Great War of 1917-1918.

To the spirit of that service, tribute is here paid by a grateful people.

J.M.Miller, Se.(ulptor)W.G. Bucher, Arch.(itect)
J. Arthur Emerick Co., Founders, Baltimore
A.D. 1919

On the opposite side of the monument is the following inscription:

ERECTED 1919

These men from Prince George's County made the supreme sacrifice defending the liberty of mankind. The most well known of the two memorials in Prince George's, primarily because of its imposing size and its location, is the Peace Cross Monument in Bladensburg. Situated in the center of the intersection of two major arteries, Bladensburg Road (Rt. L) and Defense Highway (Rt. 240, old Rt. 40), it has achieved landmark status over the years. (Until recent years it was the point of reference to the famous Bladensburg floods.)

The fund drive for the Peace Cross was begun early in 1919 by **Mr. John Riggles** of Lanham and **Mrs. J.H. Norman** of Hyattsville, Individual contributions ranged from 50 cents to $100.00, and the three local newspapers (The *Washington Star*, *The Times* and the Washington Post) as well as three department stores (Woodward & Lothrop, S Kann & Sons and Lansburg Bros.) Each contributed $100. Numerous benefits were held and a total of $1,523.16 was collected, but the drive began to wind down by late 1920. At this point the *Snyder-Farmer* Post of the American Legion agreed to assume responsibility for the completion of the Peace Cross.

Snyder-Farmer Post No. 3 of the American Legion was officially recognized on July 8, 1919, the third in the State of Maryland Most of the Legionnaires had been members of Hyattsville's old company F. Maryland National Guard, which became part of the 115th Infantry when they were mustered into Federal service and sent to France. (A charter member from another part of the County was the late **Rep. Lansdale G. Sasscer** of Upper Marlboro.) The Post was named for **Maurice B. Snyder** and **George W. Farmer**, both of Hyattsville, who lost their lives on October 8, 1918 in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive.

The Peace Cross was dedicated on July 12, 1925. The total cost, including the wall around the mound to protect it from the floods, was approximately $25,000. Of this amount, about $23,000 was raised and donated by Post No. 3.

At the base of the huge cross these four words appear on each side: ***VALOR, ENDURANCE, COURAGE, DEVOTION***. On the face of the cross at the junction of the two arms is a gold star bearing

the letters "U.S." in red in the center. Encircling the Star is a blue wreath.

* * *

EXHIBIT H

Commissioners of the Town of Bladensburg

To

Snyder-Farmer Post
No. 3, American Legion

At a duly called meeting of the Commissioners of the Town of Bladensburg, Maryland, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLUTION.

"Whereas the Commissioners of the Town of Bladensburg, Maryland, at a meeting called for the purpose hereinafter set forth, do realize that the erection of a memorial, in the form of a cross, has been advanced to a point where the Committee in charge of said cross is without funds to complete same;

And whereas, it is most desirable that the said Cross be completed at the earliest possible date in order that it might be a finished and fitting tribute to those of our boys who gave their lives in the World War;

And whereas, the Snyder-Farmer Post of the American Legion has consented to take:-over the task of completing said memorial, and it being the best judgment of these Commissioners that the American Legion can most quickly complete the memorial;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that these Commissioners do hereby request and authorize the Snyder-Farmer Post of the American Legion to complete said Cross and its surroundings in such manner as the Post may deem advisable;

And, to this end, the Town Commissioners of Bladensburg, Maryland do hereby assign and grant to the said Snyder-Farmer Post #3, American Legion, that parcel of ground upon which the cross now stands and that part necessary to complete-the park around said cross, to the perpetual care of the Snyder-Farmer Post #3 as long as it is in existence, and should the said Post go out of existence the plot to revert to the Town of Bladensburg, together with the cross and its surroundings.

We do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Resolution past at the time cited.

J. M. Edlavitch — Wm. Constantine, President.

John N. Brooks — M. J. Payne

John A. Johnson, For the Snyder-Farmer Post #3 — Edward Gasch

February 25, 1922.

Enrolled April 30, 1935 at 3:08 P. M. — Carl Huber, Town Commissioners, Bladensburg, Md.

Mary Z. L. Higgins, widow

to

DeWitt C. Cook, et ux

Nellie L. Cook

(U.S. Rev. 4.50). THIS DEED, Made this 26th day of April in the year Nineteen hundred and thirty-five by and between MARY Z. L. HIGGINS, widow, party of the first part; and DeWITT C. COOK and NELLIE

L. COOK, his wife, as tenants by the entirety, parties of the second part.

Witnesseth, that for and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars, the said party of the first part does grant unto the said parties of the second part, in fee simple, as tenants by the entirety, the following described land and premises, with the improvements, easements and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situate in Vansville District, Prince Georges County, Maryland, described as follows:

BEGINNING for the same at a stone said to be the end of the 5th line of "Turkey Flight," it being the southeastern corner of a former purchase of the said DeWitt Cook and running with two of his lines south 89° 09' west 326.2 feet to a stone; then south 00° 07' west 173.3 feet to an iron pipe in the northern line of the new County Road; then with said road south 56° 10' east 486.4 feet to an iron pipe in the western line of the High Tension right of way; then with said right of way north 27° 06' east 506.42 feet

IN THE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
SOUTHERN DIVISION

Civil Action No. 8:14-cv-00550-DKC

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, ET AL.

Plaintiffs,

v.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION,

Defendant,

Filed January 30, 2015

COMMISSION'S SECOND AMENDED ANSWERS TO PLAINTIFF, AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION'S, FIRST SET OF INTERROGATORIES

* * *

ANSWER: Objection. The requested information is not relevant to a claim or a defense in this matter. Notwithstanding the objection, upon information and belief, no organization, church, religious organization, other governmental or non-governmental entity has sought approval to use The Property within the last ten (10) years.

INTERROGATORY 7: Please identify all events or meetings that have been held or sponsored by a

governmental entity, whether local or national, on The Property, since 1960, and next to each event, provide the date and nature and purpose of the event or meeting.

ANSWER: Having made a reasonable inquiry and examination of its records, documents, and knowledge possessed by its agents and employees, the Commission states that the following government sponsored events have been held at, or in close proximity to, the median upon which the Bladensburg Cross currently stands since 1960:

1. Town of Bladensburg, 250th Year of Incorporation, held throughout 1992.

2. Rededication ceremony for the Peace Cross on November 11, 1985 held by Prince George's County, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Town of Bladensburg.

The Commission further states that the Town of Bladensburg may hold periodic events at, or in close proximity to, the Property.

INTERROGATORY 8: Please identify and describe all events held at The Property that included a prayer, including an invocation or benediction, as part of the event, since 1915.

ANSWER: The Commission objects to the scope of this Interrogatory as it requests information regarding events that may have occurred prior to its creation in 1928. Notwithstanding the objection, having made a reasonable inquiry and examination of its records, documents, and knowledge possessed by its

agents and employees, the Commission states that the following events that included a prayer held at, or in close proximity to. the median upon which the Bladensburg Cross currently stands that included a prayer are as follows:

1. Rededication ceremony for the Peace Cross on November 11, 1985 held by the Prince George's County, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Town of Bladensburg. Chaplain Father Karl Chimiak, U.S.A.F.R. provided an invocation and benediction for this event.

INTERROGATORY 9: Please provide an estimate of the total amount of government funds (including state, federal and local) that have been expended on the maintenance (including but not limited to restoration, refurbishing, and lighting) of the Bladensburg Cross since 1960.

ANSWER: Having made a reasonable inquiry and examination of its records, documents, and knowledge possessed by its agents and employees, the Commission asserts that it has expended at least 5117,000 on the maintenance (consisting of periodic mowing trash clean-up, as needed, and lighting) and the renovation of the Bladensburg Peace Cross from 1960 to date.

INTERROGATORY 10: Please provide an estimate of the total amount of government funds (including state, federal and local) that have been expended on the maintenance (including but not limited to restoration, refurbishing, and lighting) of the Bladensburg Cross between 1940 and 1960.

ANSWER: Defendant obtained an interest in the Bladensburg Cross in 1960 and has no information regarding prior expenditures.

* * *

ANSWER: The Commission has held an interest in The Property from October 25, 1960 to the present. Also see documents produced in Response to Request for Production No. 6.

INTERROGATORY 14: Please describe all pedestrian rights-of-way to The Property.

ANSWER: There are no specific pedestrian rights-of-way to The Property, although The Property can be lawfully accessed by pedestrians from the street.

INTERROGATORY 15: Please state the race, ethnicity, and religion of each person named on the Bladensburg Cross, and the location at which they are buried, if known.

ANSWER: Objection. The requested information is not relevant to a claim or defense in this matter. Notwithstanding the objection, see the documents submitted in Response to Plaintiff's Request for Production of Documents, No. 18.

INTERROGATORY 16: Please identify all persons named on the cross who are known to be: (1) Jewish (2) African-American, or (3) Non-Christian in any way.

ANSWER: Objection. The requested information is not relevant to a claim or defense in this matter. Notwithstanding the objection, see the documents submitted in Response to Plain-

tiffs Request for Production of Documents, No. 18.

INTERROGATORY 17: Please state when the "Bladensburg Promotion Committee" was formed, the authority for the creation of this committee, and include whether it has received any governmental funds.

ANSWER: Having made a reasonable inquiry and examination of its records, documents, and knowledge possessed by its agents and employees, the Commission does not possess any information regarding the formation of the Bladensburg Promotion Committee, authority for its formation and whether it has received government funds.

* * *

IN THE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
GREENBELT DIVISION

Civil Action No. 8:14cv-14-550

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, ET AL.,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK &
PLANNING COMMISSION,

Defendant,

THE AMERICAN LEGION, ET AL.,

Defendant-Intervenors,

Dated November 29 & December 1, 2014

DEFENDANT-INTERVENORS THE AMERICAN LEGION, THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND, AND THE AMERICAN LEGION COLMAR MANOR POST 131'S RESPONSES TO PLAINTIFFS' FIRST SET OF INTERROGATORIES

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* * *

INTERROGATORY NO. 10: Please describe all pedestrian rights-of-way to The Property.

OBJECTION: The Legion objects to this interrogatory on the ground that it calls for a legal conclusion. The legion also objects on the ground that this inter-

rogatory is irrelevant and not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

RESPONSE: The Legion does not have sufficient knowledge to answer this interrogatory. The burden of deriving or ascertaining the answer is substantially the same for Plaintiffs as it is the Legion.

INTERROGATORY NO. 11: Please state the race, ethnicity, and religion of each person named on the Bladensburg Cross, and the location at which they are buried, if known.

OBJECTION: The Legion objects on the ground that this interrogatory is irrelevant to the extent it calls for information about race, religion or ethnicity, and is to that extent not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

RESPONSE: The Legion does not maintain this information in the ordinary course and therefore does not have sufficient knowledge to answer this interrogatory. The burden of deriving or ascertaining the answer is substantially the same for Plaintiffs as it is the Legion.

INTERROGATORY NO. 12: Please identify all persons named on the cross who are known to be: (1) Jewish, (2) African-American, or (3) Non-Christian in any way.

OBJECTION: The Legion objects on the ground that this interrogatory is irrelevant to the extent it calls for information about race, religion or ethnicity, and is to that extent not reasonably calculated to lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

RESPONSE: The Legion does not maintain this information in the ordinary course and therefore does not have sufficient knowledge to answer this

interrogatory. The burden of deriving or ascertaining the answer is substantially the same for Plaintiffs as it is the Legion.

* * *

IN THE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

Civil Action No. 8:14cv-14-550

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, ,
FRED EDWORDS, BISHOP MCNEILL, AND STEVEN LOWE,
Plaintiffs,

vs.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK &
PLANNING COMMISSION,
Defendant,

Filed May 5, 2014

Expert Report of G. Kurt Piehler, Ph.D.

I have been asked by attorneys at the American Humanist Association to offer expert opinions concerning the Defendant Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's Cross monument situated in the Town of Bladensburg, Maryland, which is referred to in the case as the "Bladensburg Cross" or the "Peace Cross," and which purports to be a World War I memorial. Some of the materials I have reviewed and/or relied upon in preparation of this report are listed in the footnotes as well as the attached Bibliography. I have also reviewed the Complaint and some of the exhibits attached thereto. I reserve the right to supplement or amend the opinions expressed in this report should additional materials or facts be presented to me that would

warrant the supplementation or amendment of this report.

Compensation

I am being compensated at a rate of $100 per hour for research and preparation of this report and for any testimony. I will be reimbursed for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses, including travel expenses, incurred in connection with this engagement. My compensation has not influenced my views in this matter and does not depend in any way on the outcome of this lawsuit.

Qualifications

I am Director of the Institute of World War II and the Human Experience and Associate Professor of History at Florida State University, and I am the author of *Remembering War the American Way* (Smithsonian Institution Press, 1995, reprint ed., 2004/Japanese translation 2013) and *World War II* (Greenwood Press, 2007) in the *American Soldiers' Lives* series. I am the editor of *Encyclopedia of Military Science* (Sage, 2013), *The United States in World War II: A Documentary Reader* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2013) and also co-edited *The United States and the Second World War: New Perspectives on Diplomacy, War, and the Home Front* (Fordham University Press, 2010), *The Atomic Bomb and American Society: New Perspectives* (University of Tennessee Press, 2009) and *Major Problems in American Military History* (Houghton Mifflin, 1999). I edit two book series: *World War II: The Global, Human, Ethical Dimension* (Fordham University Press) and *Legacies of War* (University of Tennessee Press). A full list of all publications I authored in the

previous 10 years is included in the CV attached to this report and is incorporated herein by reference.

I have held academic positions at the City University of New York, Drew University, Rutgers University and the University of Tennessee. In 2008, I served as Fulbright Lecturer in American Studies at Kobe University and Kyoto University. As founding director (1994-1998) of the Rutgers Oral History Archives, I conducted more than 200 interviews with veterans of World War II. My televised lecture, "The War That Transformed a Generation," which drew on the Rutgers Oral History Archives, appeared on the History Channel in 1997.

My current research project focuses on the religious life of the American GI in World War II. Research for this project has been supported with funding from the American Jewish Archives at Hebrew Union College, Cushwa Center at the University of Notre Dame, Mary Baker Eddy Library, the Presbyterian Historical Society, and the Rockefeller Center Archives. I presented research for this ongoing book project at the American Historical Association. My article "World War II and America's Religious Communities" appeared in The Cambridge History of Religions in America in 2012. In 2012 I along with Professor John Corrigan of the Department of Religion at Florida State convened at a four-day international conference examining Religion and World War II.

In December 2012, I co-organized a four-day international conference focusing on religion and World War II. The Jack, Joseph, and Morton Madel Center of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum selected me to attend week long Seminar for Seminary Faculty

and Professor of Religious Studies: "Moral Dilemmas and Moral Choice in the Holocaust: Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Pius XII as Case Studies in Religious Leadership" held in June 2014.

As a teacher I have supervised doctoral and master's students on a variety of topics related to U.S. military history, as well as Twentieth Century U.S. History. Several of my current and past students are either active duty members of the armed services or veterans of the recent wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Born in Nyack, New York, I attended public schools in the Fresh Meadows neighborhood of Queens, New York, and later Mount Arlington and Roxbury, New Jersey. I am a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Drew University, where I majored in history, religion, and political science. I hold a master's degree and doctorate in history from Rutgers University. In 2009, I was a member (competitive award with stipend) of the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar "Religious Diversity and the Common Good," sponsored by the Boisi Center for Religion and American Public Life at Boston College in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts.

I previously served as a testifying expert in *Trunk v. City of San Diego,* Nos. 06cv1597/1728-LAB (S.D. Cal.). On appeal, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit relied extensively on my testimony regarding the use of religious symbols in veterans' memorials. *Trunk v. City of San Diego,* 629 F.3d 1099, 1112-16 (9th Cir. 2011). I am currently serving as a testifying expert in *Hewett v. City of King,* No. 1:12-CV-1179, concerning the City of King's statue of a soldier kneeling before a Cross, which is part of the City's Veterans' Memorial.

SUMMARY OF OPINION

The Bladensburg Peace Cross is a sectarian monument that features a Christian symbol that excludes non-Christians (as well as certain Christians who view the Cross as a graven image). Of the thousands of war memorials that exist in the form of statues, bas-relief, arches and other works of art and sculpture, most do not include the symbol of the Cross. Even fewer memorials are free standing sculptural renderings of the Latin Cross.

The Cross is widely considered by most Christians and non-Christians as a symbol of Christianity. The Cross excludes non-Christians including, but not limited to Muslims, Atheists and Humanists, Jews, Hindus, Buddhists and Taoists. Some non-Christians even view the Cross as hostile to their beliefs. Until the late Nineteenth Century, many Protestants did not consider the Cross as a legitimate symbol of Christianity and saw it as a sectarian symbol of the Roman Catholic Church. Similarly, many Protestants, especially those from Calvinist traditions did not use the Cross on their gravestones.

The absence of Crosses on war memorials mirrors the sensitivity displayed by the American military respecting religious pluralism and diversity. When the U.S. Army began to systematically mark the graves of fallen soldier after the Civil War, it used non-sectarian grave markers for all Union soldiers buried in national cemeteries.

The decision after World War I and World War II to mark the graves of non-Jewish soldiers with a free standing Latin Cross in overseas cemeteries maintained by the American Battle Monuments Commission is an aberration to the general pattern of memo-

rialization. During both of these wars, the free standing Latin Cross (or the Star of David for Jewish soldiers) was not adopted for use in national cemeteries for the war dead and veterans maintained in the continental United States. For members of the armed forces buried in the United States, the U.S. Army continued to use a uniform slab gravestone. Religious symbols were, if requested by the family, engraved on an individual gravestone, but the option also existed to have no religious symbol on a gravestone. Moreover, the religious symbol engraved on these government-supplied gravestones were small and did not dominate the surface.

The use of the Cross in war memorials and gravestones has never been generally accepted. For instance, there existed opposition over the use of the free standing Cross in the overseas cemeteries and the chapels constructed after World War I by the American Battle Monuments Commission. Moreover, the Bladensburg Peace Cross was erected in an era when the Cross would be appropriated by the Ku Klux Klan as a sectarian symbol designed to intimidate Jews, Roman Catholics, and African Americans. The Bladensburg Peace Cross is also striking because it differs from prevailing monuments erected by most communities within the United States after World War I: images featuring an American soldier.

Designs for monuments commemorating the war memorials have changed over time. The obelisk served in the early Republic and the antebellum era the most common way to mark the graves of fallen soldiers and monuments to memorialize the American Revolution and later War of 1812. In the aftermath of the Civil War, the "soldier monument"

depicting the "average" common soldiers dominated the landscape until World War II. After 1945, the "statues" as a form of remembrance after 1945 fell out of favor and many communities opted for to build such utilitarian structures as parks, schools, hospitals, highways, and other utilitarian structures as "living memorials" to memorialize the war dead commemorate World War II. Monuments as war memorials came back in favor after 1975 and the architecturally many war memorials in the 1980s and 1990s built in the United States were heavily influenced by the modernist design of the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

ANALYSIS

A. The Cross is a Religious Symbol

The Latin Cross is widely used as the symbol of Christianity and has been used to symbolize Christianity since 300 A.C.E. Under cannon law the Roman Catholic Church mandated the incorporation of the Cross and crucifix into the architecture of Roman Catholic houses of worship.

The Latin Cross has also divided Christians. As a result of the Reformation and splintering of Western Christendom, divisions emerged among Christians over the use of the Cross. Although Lutherans and the Church of England continued to use the Cross along with Church altars in their houses of worship, many Protestants, especially those from Calvinist traditions rejected them. Calvinists, such as the Puritans, deemed crosses, statues of saints, and other symbols widely used in Roman Catholic Churches as violating the second commandment of the Old Testament (Hebrew Bible) that prohibited false idols and graven images. As a result, the Cross

was seen by many of the colonists who settled in British American as a rejected contentious sectarian symbol that associated with Roman Catholicism.[1]

The Cross has never been a universal grave marker for the dead and generally only began to appear in some Church cemeteries as a grave marker in the Thirteenth Century. Beginning in the Seventeenth Century it began to appear more widely on individual graves.[2] Many Protestants from Calvinist traditions did not use the Cross and favored other such symbols as the winged deathhead or the skulls and crossbones motif that reflected their belief in predestination (i.e., that God had determined even before birth who would be part of the elect and those who would suffer eternal damnation).[3]

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[1] Ryan K. Smith, *Gothic Arches, Latin Crosses: Anti-Catholicism and American Church Designdes in the Nineteenth Century* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2006), pp., 1-18; Allan I. Ludwig, *Graven Images: New England Stonecarving and its Symbols* (Middletown, CT: Wesleyan University Press, 1966), p. 258

[2] Michael Ragon, *The Space of Death: A Study of Funerary Architecture, Decoration, and Urbanism.* Translated by Alan Sheridan (Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1983), p. 78.

[3] Debra Meyers, *Common Whores: Vertuous Women, and Loveing Wives: Free Will Christians in Colonial Maryland* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2003), pp.73-'74; David E. Stannard, *The Puritan Way of Death: A Study in Religion, Culture, and Social Change* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1979), pp. 116-17; *Allan I. Ludwig, Graven Images: New England Stonecarving and its Symbols, 1650-1815* (Middletown, CT: Wesleyan University Press, 1966), 258; Diana Williams Combs, *Early Gravestone Art in Georgia and South*

The view of the Latin Crosses in Nineteenth Century as sectarian of Roman Catholicism remained a prevailing attitude until the late Nineteenth Century. Anti-Catholic theological tracts denounced the use of the Cross. The depth of nativist sentiment in the antebellum era remained so strong it even led to mob violence aimed at Roman Catholics and their institution. In 1854, a nativist mob in Philadelphia reveled in pulling down and burning a Cross from a Roman Catholic Church they were vandalizing.[4]

The Protestant response to the growing demographic strength of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States also led to imitation and influenced a shift in views of the Cross and other sectarian Roman Catholic symbols. Over the course of the Nineteenth Century, many Protestants began to incorporate the Cross into the architecture of their houses of worship.[5]

The vast majority of non-Christians view the Cross as a sectarian symbol of Christianity. The various strands of mainstream Judaism (Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, and Reconstructionist) do not incorporate the Cross in their synagogues and their adherents to not place this symbol on their gravestones.[6] The State of Israel while a member of the

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Carolina (Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 1986), pp. 1-80.

[4] Smith, *Gothic Arches*, p.52.

[5] Smith, *Gothic Arches*, passim.

[6] Roberta Halporn, "American Jewish Cemeteries: A Mirror on History," in *Ethnicity and the American Cemetery*. Edited by Richard E. Meyer (Bowling Green, OH: Bowling Green State University, Popular Press, 1993), pp. 131-55.

International Red Cross movement does not use the Cross for their national organization, but instead substitutes the Star of David. The Red Crescent is the symbol used by most Muslim countries that are part of the International Red Cross movement.[7]

B. Historical Background on Use of Cross in War Memorials

The vast majority of war memorials built within the United States do not make use of the Latin Cross. Thousands of war memorials have been dedicated since the end of the American Revolution, but most do not use any religious iconography.[8] When the Cross has been used, it is seldom a dominant feature of the memorial. For instance, the Confederate Memorial in Tarboro, North Carolina dedicated in 1906, does include a small cross above an inscription. But the dominant feature in the memorial is the sculptural representation of typical Confederate soldiers (see **EXHIBIT 1** below).

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[7] Hillary Jean Sebeny, "International Committee of the Red Cross" in Encyclopedia of Military Science. Edited by G. Kurt Piehler and M. Houston Johnson V (Los Angeles: SAGE Publications, 2013): 1205-6.

[8] G. Kurt Piehler, The American Memory of War in *The American Experience of War*. Edited by Georg Schild. Munich: Ferdinand Schoning), p. 229.

Exhibit 1. **"Confederate Monument, (sculpture)."** *Date:* Oct. 29, 1904. *Medium:* bronze with black patina with green patches; Base: granite. *Dimensions:* Figure: approx. 9 x

3 x 4 ft.; Base: approx. 30 x 9 x 9 ft. *Owner/Location:* Administered by City of Tarboro Parks Department P. O. Drawer #220 Tarboro North Carolina 27886. Located Town Commons Main & Wilson Streets Tarboro North Carolina. *Description:* Confederate soldier in uniform stands at parade rest, holding the barrel of his rifle with both hands. The butt of the gun rests on the ground in front of him. He wears a moustache and a hat and he has a bedroll draped over his proper left shoulder. He carries a satchel and canteen on his back and a sword hangs from his belt on his proper left side. He stands atop a multitiered base with inscriptions. A cross is carved above the inscriptions. Towards the bottom of the base is a carved medallion featuring a horse and rider surrounded by garlands of leaves and another inscription. *Repository:* Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture, Smithsonian American Art Museum, P.O. Box 37012, MRC 970, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012. *Control Number:* IAS NC000115.

When free standing Latin Crosses have been built as war memorials they have generally been located in cemeteries, such as the French Cross and the Canadian Cross of Sacrifice at Arlington National Cemetery. (See **EXHIBIT 2** below).

Exhibit 2. "French Cross" Sculpture. *Medium:* Granite. *Dimensions:* Approx. H. 15 ft. x W. 4 ft. *Description:* A tall granite cross mounted on a square base inscribed in honor of twenty-five sailors of the French fleet who died while on duty in American waters during World War I. *Owner/Location:* Administered by United States Department of Veterans Affairs, National Cemetery Administration, 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, District of Columbia 20420. Located Cypress Hills National Cemetery, 625 Jamaica Avenue, Brook-

lyn, New York 11208. *Remarks:* The monument was erected by the France American Society in honor of the twenty-five sailors of the French fleet who died while on duty in American waters during World War I. *Repository:* Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture, Smithsonian American Art Museum, P.O. Box 37012, MRC 970, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012. *Control Number:* IAS 68000014.

But even at Arlington National Cemetery and other national cemeteries, most war memorials do not make use of the Cross. In cases where Crosses have been used on war memorials built outside of national cemeteries, they have often served as distinctive ethnic maker for soldiers being memorialized. For instance, one of the few major memorials of the hundred erected at Gettysburg Battlefield in Pennsylvania to use the Cross as a central symbol is the Irish Brigade Monument erected to commemorate the service of three New York regiments. The memorial includes a Celtic Cross bearing the seal of Ireland, as well as an image of an Irish bloodhound.[9]

The federal government only systematically sought to identify, bury, and properly mark the graves of fallen soldiers after the Civil War. Many individuals, private organizations, and communities did mark the graves of fallen soldiers from the American Revolution, War of 1812, and Mexican American War, generally with obelisks and gravestones. Obelisks were the most common form used for war

[9] Piehler, American Memory of War pp. 229-30.

memorials to commemorate such major battles as Bunker Hill.[10]

Baltimore, Maryland, earned the title of Monumental City as a result of major monuments to mark the memory of those who fell in the defense of Baltimore in the War of 1812 and to George Washington. The Battle Monument dedicated in 1825, while listing the names of both officers and enlisted men who died in battles in defense of the city in 1814, bears no Christian symbolism. Designed by Maximilian Godefroy, it draws on architectural feature modeled after forms commonly used in Ancient Egypt and Roman Republic/Empire. (See **EXHIBIT 3** below). A National Historic landmark it is described as:

> The 52-foot high marble Battle Monument which is located at the southern edge of Monument Square features an Egyptian base surmounted by a shaft with Roman detailing, and is capped by a statue of Victory. The monument stands on a marble platform surrounded by a decorative iron railing. The base is made up of 18 layers of marble designed as an Egyptian tomb with blank openings and winged disc ornamentation. Four griffins are perched over the base. At the bottom of the shaft, which rises from the base, are two bas reliefs of the Battle of North Point and the Bombardment of Fort McHenry. The shaft is

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[10] G. Kurt Piehler, *Remembering War the American Way* (Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 2004), chapter. 1.

sculptured to resemble a fasces, made of vertical rods held together by broad bands at the top and bottom displaying the names of 36 soldiers who died in the defense of Baltimore in the War of 1812. Engraved at the top of the column are the names of the three officers that died in the battle. The statue itself, a "Lady Baltimore" holding a wreath of victory, is flanked by a cannonball and antique rudder on the left, and a bronze laurel wreath and eagle on the right.[11]

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[11] http://mht.maryland.gov/NR/NRDetail.aspx?HDID=174&FROM=NRMapWA.html (accessed November 1, 2014).

Exhibit 3. **"The Battle Monument, (sculpture)."** *Dates:* 1815-1825. *Medium:* Vermont Marble. *Dimensions:* Overall: approx. H. 52 ft.; Figure: approx. H. 8 1/2 ft. *Owner/Location:* Administered by City of Baltimore, Recreation and Parks, 2600 Madison Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21217. Located Calvert & Fayette Streets, Baltimore, Maryland. *Repository:* Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture, Smithsonian American Art Museum, P.O. Box 37012, MRC 970,

Washington, D.C. 20013-7012. *Control Number:* IAS 75005996.

After the Civil War, statues depicting the average and nameless common soldier graced thousands of town squares and county courthouses across the North and South. Many communities erected monuments from commercial firms that mass-produced blue and grey soldier figures.[12] (See **EXHIBITS 4 and 5** below).

Exhibit 4. "The Confederate Soldier, (sculpture)." *Medium:* Sculpture: bronze; Base: stone. *Dimensions:* approx. 65 x 27 x 27

[12] Piehler, *Remembering War*, chapter 2.

in.; Base: approx. 99 x 84 x 84 in. *Owner/Location:* Administered by City of Rockville Art in Public Places Maryland Avenue at Vinson Street Rockville Maryland 20850. Located Rockville Courthouse Jefferson Street Rockville Maryland. *Description:* A standing figure of a Confederate soldier with his arms folded across his chest. On his belt a sword hangs on his proper left side and a revolver hangs on his proper right side. The sculpture stands atop a square granite base with rough-hewn sides. *Remarks:* The sculpture honors Civil War soldiers from Montgomery County. *Repository:* Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture, Smithsonian American Art Museum, P.O. Box 37012, MRC 970, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012. *Control Number:* IAS 75006386.

Exhibit 5. **"Maryland Naval Monument."** *Dates:* Dedicated Nov. 26, 1896. *Medium:* Granite. *Dimensions:* Overall: approx. 23 ft. 6 in. x 7 ft. x 7 ft. *Description:* A granite figure of a ship's quartermaster on watch, with a spyglass held in front of him with both hands, and his right leg forward. The figure stands atop a granite shaft adorned with relief carvings of a compass and crossed cannons, a ship's wheel, and an anchor and chain. *Owner/Location:* Administered by United States Department of Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration 810 Vermont Ave-

nue, N.W Washington District of Columbia 20420. Located Loudon Park National Cemetery 3445 Frederick Avenue Baltimore Maryland 21228. *Repository:* Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture, Smithsonian American Art Museum, P.O. Box 37012, MRC 970, Washington, D.C. 20013. *Control Number:* IAS 68000025.

Erected with public funds provided by the State of Maryland, the Union Soldier and Sailor Monuments in Baltimore, Maryland, and completed in 1909 contains no Christian imagery. The monument features a lone Union soldier flanked by two female figures drawn from Greco-Roman mythology, Victory and Bellona (the goddess of war).[13] (See **EXHIBIT 6** below).

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[13] Cindy Kelly, *Outdoor Sculpture in Baltimore: A Historical Guide to Public Art in the Monumental City* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2011), pp. 196-97.

Exhibit 6. "Union Soldiers and Sailors Monument, (sculpture)." *Dates:* Dedicated Nov. 6, 1909. Relocated 1959. Rededicated April 9, 1997. *Sculptor:* Weinman, Adolph A. 1870-1952. *Owner/Location:* Administered by Recreation and Parks 2600 Madison Avenue Baltimore Maryland 21217. Located Wyman Park Southeast corner at 2900 block of North Charles Street Baltimore Maryland. *Summary:* Atop a tall oval granite base stands a bronze figure group depicting a uniformed Union Civil War soldier turning from his plow and anvil. Beside him are two allegorical female figures, Victory on his proper right and Bellona, Goddess of War, on his proper left.

Behind the figure of Bellona is a fig tree. Victory's proper right arm is raised and her wings are spread. The figures stride forward with their drapery billowing in the breeze. On the south side of the granite base is a marble relief depicting a naval attack. On the north side of the granite base is a marble relief depicting the Infantry and the Cavalry. On the back of the base are reliefs of a sword, an eagle, a shield, and an anchor. Surrounding the base is an exedra bench. *Repository:* Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture, Smithsonian American Art Museum, P.O. Box 37012, MRC 970, Washington, D.C. 20013. *Control Number:* IAS 75006034.

After the Civil War, the federal government constructed cemeteries for the war dead that fought for the Union Army. In building these cemeteries, the Quartermaster Corps of the U.S. Army used only secular imagery in the design of individual grave makers. Government-purchased gravestones for soldiers buried in Union cemeteries contained no religious symbols. This prohibition on religious symbolism for grave markers for deceased Union soldiers still remains in effect. The Department of Veterans Affairs continues to provide gravestones to mark Union graves in both public and private cemeteries, but it will not provide a headstone with any private inscriptions.[14] The federal government when

[14] There were exceptions to the pattern, for instance, the officer's section at Arlington National Cemetery permitted individuals and families to purchase and erect monuments purchased with private funds and Crosses were erected on some

establishing Civil War cemeteries in the late 1860s and early 1870s, did not build any chapels. Instead, lodges were built to offer hospitality to visitors and to house cemetery superintendents.[15]

Traditionally, war memorials even when built in a national cemetery or battlefield are erected by private organizations, local, and state governments. Thousands of monuments were placed on Civil War and to a lesser extent, Revolutionary War battlefields, created as national military parks by the federal government beginning in the 1890s. The majority of monuments on these battlefields do not make use of religious imagery or symbols in any significant way. When religious symbols and iconography is used, it is usually a minor feature of war memorial. In other cases, religious symbols on a memorial signified ethnic nationalism, such as the Gaelic Cross erected at the Gettysburg by predominately Irish Volunteer Regiment from New York City.[16]

World War I

The vast majority of World War I memorials do not make use of religious iconography in their design.

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graves. But Crosses are by no means uniformly used in the Nineteenth Century.

[15] Catherine W. Zipf, "Marking Union Victory in the South: The Construction of the National Cemetery System" in *Monuments to the Lost Cause: Women, Art, and Landscapes of Southern Memory,* Edited by Cynthia Mills and Pamela H. Simpson (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2003), pp. 27-45.

[16] Piehler, *Remembering War,* chapter 2; Piehler, *The American Memory of War,* p. 328.

(See **EXHIBITS 7-11** below for examples in Maryland). Even during World War I, attempts to use religious iconography were seen as highly controversial.

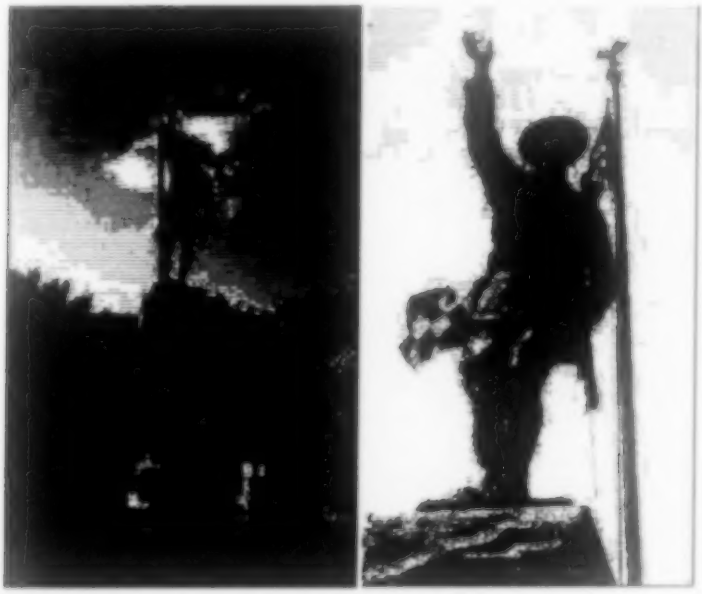

Exhibit 7. (See description below).

Exhibit 7. "World War I Monument, (sculpture)." *Dates:* 1921. Copyrighted 1921. Dedicated July 4, 1926. Relocated 1953. Relocated 1977. Rededicated Nov. 11, 1977. *Sculptor:* Paulding, John 1883-1935. *Medium:* Sculpture: bronze; Base: granite.

Owner/Location: American Legion, Potomac Post No. 202 400 American Legion Avenue Williamsport Maryland 21795. *Summary:* Full-length figure of a uniformed World War I doughboy stands on a rough-hewn pedestal and tiered base. The running figure holds a rifle in his proper left hand. His proper right hand is upraised and empty. Uniform items include a tin hat, canteen, ammunition belt and bed roll. *Repository:* Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture, Smithsonian American Art Museum, P.O. Box 37012, MRC 970, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012. *Control Number:* IAS MD000529.

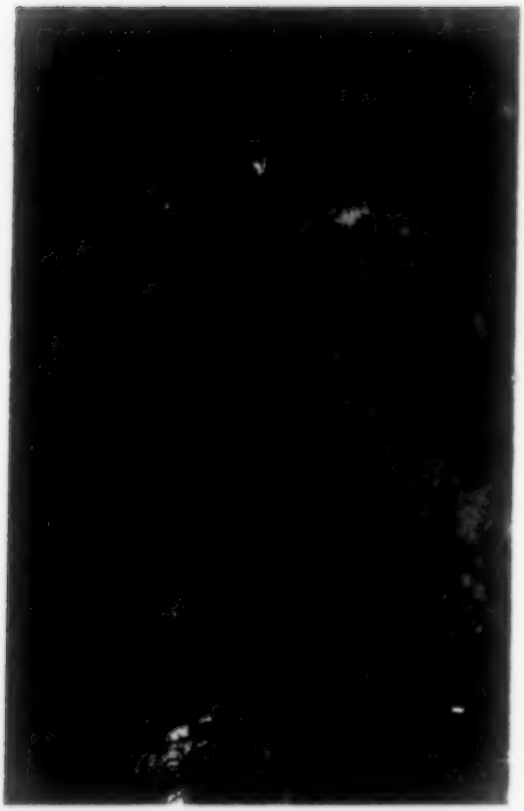

Exhibit 8. "War Memorial, (sculpture)."Medium: Sculpture: bronze; Base: granite. *Owner/Location:* Administered by City of Frederick Frederick Maryland. Located Calvary Place West Bentz Street Frederick Maryland. *Dimensions:* Sculpture: approx. 15 x 5 x 5 ft., Diam. 5 ft.; Base: approx. 10 x 8 x 8 ft., Diam. 8 ft. *Description:* A standing female figure of Victory wearing a Greek dress and sandals. Her hair is pulled in a bun. Her upraised proper right hand holds a laurel wreath and a sword is at her proper left side. She is atop a multi-tiered octagonal base.

Repository: Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture, Smithsonian American Art Museum, P.O. Box 37012, MRC 970, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012. *Control Number:* IAS MD000206.

Exhibit 9. "World War I Monument, Chesapeake City, (sculpture)." *Dates:* Dedicated Nov. 11, 1919. *Medium:* Sculpture: bronze; Base: granite. *Dimensions:* Sculpture: approx. 2 ft. 1/2 in. x 4 ft. 1/2 in. x 2 in.; Base: approx. 5 ft. 11 in. x 6 ft. 6 in. x 2 ft. 8 1/2 in. *Description:* Honor Roll relief plaque is installed on a marker with a rough-hewn base. The relief includes two allegorical female figures in Classical dress and a list of seventy-one names in four columns. The figure on the left holds a wreath in her proper left hand. The wreath encircles five of the names. The figure on the right holds a laurel branch in her extended proper right hand and a sword in her proper left hand. The tablet is framed on each side by a pilaster and topped by a cornice with an ornamental frieze. *Remarks:* Erected by

the Town of Chesapeake City in memory of its citizens who died in World War I. *Repository:* Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture, Smithsonian American Art Museum, P.O. Box 37012, MRC 970, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012. *Control Number:* IAS MD000510.

Exhibit 10. **"Hurlock World War I Doughboy Monument, (sculpture)."** *Date:* Installed 1930. *Medium:* Sculpture: marble; Base: granite. *Dimensions:* Sculpture: approx. 91 x 19 x 19 in.; Pedestal: approx. 74 x 37 x 37 in.; Base: approx. 15 in. x 5 ft. x 5 ft. 3 in. *Owner/Location:* Administered by Unity-Washington Cemetery Association do Edgar A. Langford, 6315 Medford Road Hurlock Maryland; Located Washington Cemetery Route 331 Hurlock Maryland. *Description:* Full-length figure of a uniformed Doughboy stands atop a rough-hewn pedestal and base. The figure stands by a tree stump, with his proper right hand on his hip and his proper left hand around the barrel of his rifle. The rifle is held in front of the figure, with the butt on the

ground between his feet. Other uniform items include a tin hat and ammunition belt. The right point of his shirt collar is tipped upward, as if caught in a breeze. Honor roll plaque is installed on the front of the pedestal. *Repository:* Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture, Smithsonian American Art Museum, P.O. Box 37012, MRC 970, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012. *Control Number:* IAS MD000516.

Exhibit 11. "World War I Memorial, (sculpture)." *Dates:* 1921. Relocated 1925. Relocated July 4, 1933. *Medium:* Sculpture: bronze; Base: granite. *Dimensions:* Sculpture:

approx. 80 in. x 4 ft. x 34 in.; Base: approx. 7 ft. x 6 ft. 2 in. x 4 ft. *Description:* A bronze World War I memorial features an eagle perched atop an unfurled scroll that hangs down one side of a granite marker. The eagle's wings are spread and it holds an oak branch in its claws. The scroll is inscribed with the names of young men from the Belair Road area of Baltimore who died during World War I. *Owner/Location:* Administered by City of Baltimore, Recreation and Parks, 2600 Madison Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21217. Located Herring Run Park, Corner of Belair Drive & Shannon Drive, Baltimore, Maryland. *Remarks:* The memorial commemorates the World War I soldiers of the Belair Road area of Baltimore. It was originally located at Belair Road and Glenmore Avenue, but was moved to Herring Run Park (near Parkside Drive) in 1925, and relocated within Herring Run Park to its present site on July 4, 1933. For related reading see Henry and Caroline Naylor's "Public Monuments &Sculpture of Baltimore: An Introduction to the Collection," 1987, pg. 39. *Repository:* Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture,_Smithsonian American Art Museum, P.O. Box 37012, MRC 970, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012. *Control Number:* IAS MD000471.

Efforts to make the Cross as the symbol for all chaplains serving in the U.S. Army sparked controversy. Prior to America's entrance into World War I, the shepherd's crock had served as symbol for chaplains. In 1917, the Army mandated that all chaplains would wear an insignia that featured the Latin

Cross which prompted immediate protest from Jewish chaplains and Jewish organization. Efforts to restore the shepherd's crock lead to protests from Christian chaplains and in a compromise, Christian chaplains wore an insignia bearing a Latin Cross while Jewish chaplains wore an insignia featuring the Torah.[17]

Controversy would mark the use of religious symbolism on war memorials and monuments in the aftermath of World War I. Despite a tradition of not using Crosses as grave markers, the U.S. Army during World War I followed British example and used temporary wooden crosses as markers for many of the war dead. Although the U.S. Army had required soldiers to wear metallic identification tags ("dog tags") to aid in identifying those who had died in battle, religious identity (or lack thereof) was not engraved on them (this would be rectified in the Second World War). As a result, there were mistakes made in marking the graves of the fallen. For instance, one American doughboy wrote in distress when graves of his fallen comrades were marked with Cross instead of Star of David headboards observing, "Yesterday, I visited the cemetery where our dead comrades laid to rest, and there were our Jewish boys, the sons of Moses and Jacob with a cross at the head of the their graves."[18]

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[17] Lisa M. Budreau, *Bodies of War: World War I and the Politics of Commemoration in America, 1919-1933* (New York: NYU University Press, 2010), p. 120.

[18] Budreau, *Bodies of War*, p. 119, Roy J. Honeywell, Chaplains of the United States Army (Washington, DC: Department of the Army, Government Printing Office, 1958), p. 179.

After World War I a debate emerged over whether or not the United States would maintain permanent cemeteries in Europe. Many Americans called for the return of all the war dead with others wanted to have all those who died in service of the nation remained interred in permanent overseas cemeteries in France and Great Britain. After significant debate, the War Department permitted next of kin to make the final decision with regard to the place of burial. Slightly over seventy percent of next of kin opted to repatriate the body of their spouse or family member for burial in a national cemetery in the United States or private graveyard.[19]

Once the decision had been made to establish permanent cemetery, a new debate emerged over what type of grave marker to use. The Quartermaster Corps of the U.S. Army wanted to retain the traditional slab marker that traditionally marked the graves of the war dead interred in national cemeteries. They opposed freestanding crosses because it would require the erection of monuments for Jewish soldiers and thus would break the uniformity and equality of all in death that would be represented by rows of uniform headstones.[20]

The next of kin who wanted to have a fallen solider buried in an overseas cemetery maintained by American Battle Monuments Commission for the World War I dead in Europe had only two choices: either a Latin Cross or a Star of David. Atheists, freethinkers, and those Christians who did embrace the Cross

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[19] Piehler, *Remembering War the American Way*, pp. 94-98.

[20] Piehler, *Remembering War the American Way*, p. 101.

as an acceptable religious symbol could not decline these symbols and it is likely they opted to have the fallen soldier's body repatriated for burial in a national or private cemetery. Although overseas cemeteries adopted freestanding Latin Crosses and Stars of David, national cemeteries in the United States adopted a uniform slap marker and applicant could request a sectarian symbol (Christian Cross or "Hebrew" Star of David) or a gravestone absent of all religious symbols.[21]

Chapels would be built at all the overseas cemeteries established by the American Battle Monuments Commission. The Commission favored designs that were explicitly Christian and even admonished one architect to modify elements of his design to make them more sectarian in character. Officially deemed by the Commission as non-sectarian, the Jewish Welfare Board protested to the Commission the decision to use Latin Crosses as architectural feature. The Commission ignored these protests and in correspondence maintained that these chapels were to have a Christian character. Jewish protests met with more success in forestalling the use of Christian iconography of the monument marking the grave Tomb of the Unknown Solder. This monument borrowing heavily from classical Greek and Roman imagery would be completed and dedicated in 1929.[22]

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[21] M1916 *Application for Headstone for U.S. Military Veterans* (Guide), Compiled by Claire Prechtel-Kluskens (Washington, DC: National Archives and Records Center, 2005), passim.

[22] Piehler, *Remembering War*, pp. 100-01.

The Bladensburg Cross

World War I sparked an intense interest in building war memorials and only the Civil War surpasses this conflict in total number of memorial built. Local and state governments and private organization built thousands of memorials; many were traditional statues as well as a host of artistic works (e.g., bas reliefs, memorial arches). Hundreds of communities opted to build living memorials, such as community centers, schools, parks, highways, stadiums, and other utilitarian structures memorialize the fallen and veterans who served in World War 1.[23]

The vast majority of World War I memorials did not make use of religious iconography in their design. Instead, most communities commissioned or purchased a mass-produced "doughboy statue" depicting a nameless "common soldier."

The free standing Latin Cross in Bladensburg is distinctive and relatively very few communities erected such a sectarian war memorial. For instance, the first war memorial erected in Prince George's County, Maryland, to memorialize World War I did not contain any religious iconography. (See **EXHIBIT 12**, below). Located in front of the Prince George County Courthouse in Upper Marlboro this monument is described in Smithsonian Institution's Art Inventory database of Art and Sculpture in this manner:

> A rectangular limestone stele with a bronze relief depicting a doughboy standing beside a

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[23] Piehler, *Remembering War*, passim.

memorial plaque. The doughboy, dressed in his World War I uniform, stands at parade rest holding his rifle in front of him with the barrel end up. At the doughboy's feet is a large palm frond. On the lower front of the limestone stele there is a fountain consisting of a small bronze spout above a rectangular basin, but the fountain basin is now covered with a concrete slab. A bronze plaque is attached to the back of the stele.

On the lower right corner of the relief:) J. M. MILLER SC/W. G. BEECHER ARCH (On lower left corner of the relief:) J. ARTHUR LIMERICK CO., FOUNDERS,/BALTIMORE (On front of relief, raised letters:) THIS MONUMENT/PERPETUATES THE MEMORY/OF THE/ SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF/PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY/WHO/TRUE TO THE TRADITIONS/OF THEIR COUNTY/AND THE TEACHINGS/OF THEIR FOREFATHERS/SERVED THEIR COUNTRY/IN THE GREAT WAR/OF 1917-1918/TO THE SPIRIT OF THAT SERVICE/TRIBUTE IS HERE PAID/BY A GRATEFUL PEOPLE (On front of limestone stele, above the relief, incised letters:) THE RIGHT WILL PREVAIL (On bronze plaque on back of stele:) THESE MEN/FROM/PRINCE GEORGE'S/COUNTY/MADE THE SUPREME/SACRIFICE/DEFENDING/THE LIBERTY OF/MANKIND/ROLL OF

HONOR/(list of forty seven names)/ERECTED/1919 signed Founder's mark appears.[24]

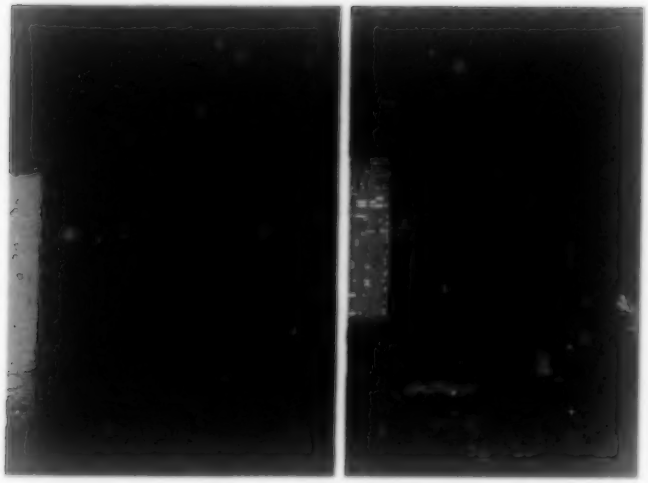

Exhibit 12. "Prince George's County World War I Monument, (sculpture)." *Date:* Installed 1919. *Medium:* Relief: bronze; Stele: limestone. *Dimensions:* Stele: approx. 11 ft. 8 in. x 5 ft. 6 in. x 1 ft. 8 in. *Owner/Location:* Administered by Prince George's County, Office of the County Executive, 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Room 5032, CAB, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20722. Located Prince George's County Court House, Front courtyard, Upper Marlboro, Maryland. *Re-*

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[24] http://siris- artinventories.si.edu/ipac20/ipac .j sp? &profile=all& s ource=— ! s iartinventorie s &uri=full=3100001—!333145—! 0#foc us (accessed November 12, 2014).

marks: The memorial is dedicated to the men and women of Prince George's County who served in World War I (1917-1918). *Repository:* Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture, Smithsonian American Art Museum, P.O. Box 37012, MRC 970, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012. *Control Number:* IAS MD000357.

A search of the Smithsonian Institution's online inventory will indicate a listing of several hundred outdoor war memorials featuring the image of the doughboy. Many of the doughboy statues erected between 1919-1939 would be the mass produced "The Spirit of the American Doughboy" created by the sculptor E.M. Viquesney. (See **EXHIBITS 13 and 14** below). Viquesney's mass produced statue would be erected in approximately 140 communities and to help sell them, the sculptor took out advertisements in the American Legion Weekly and later American Legion Monthly.[25]

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[25] Steven Trout, *On the Battlefield of Memory: The First World War and American Remembrance, 1919-1941* (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2010), pp 107-156. *See also* An Les Kopel, Webmaster, "E.M. Viquesney Archive" available at http://emvarchive.weebly.com (accessed November 3, 2014).

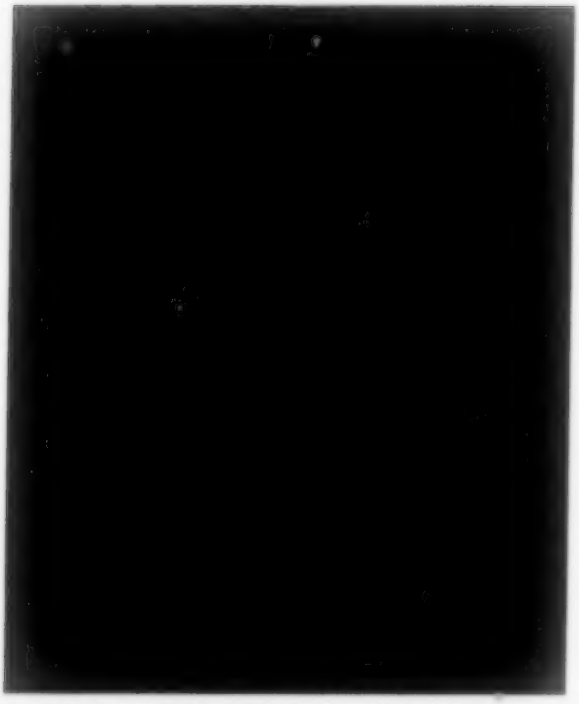

Exhibit 13. "The Spirit of the American Doughboy, (sculpture)." *Dates:* Copyrighted 1920, 1934. Dedicated May 29, 1927. *Medium:* Bronze. *Dimensions:* Sculpture: H. 7 ft x 26 in. x 26 in.; Base: 5 ft. x 70 in. *Description:* Figure of a World War I infantryman advancing through the stumps and barbed wire of No Man's Land. He holds a rifle in his proper left hand and a grenade in his upraised proper right hand. *Owner/Location:* Located Main, High, & West Broadway, Lincoln, *Maine. Repository:* Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture, Smithsonian American Art Museum, P.O. Box 37012, MRC 970, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012. *Control Number:* IAS 47260051.

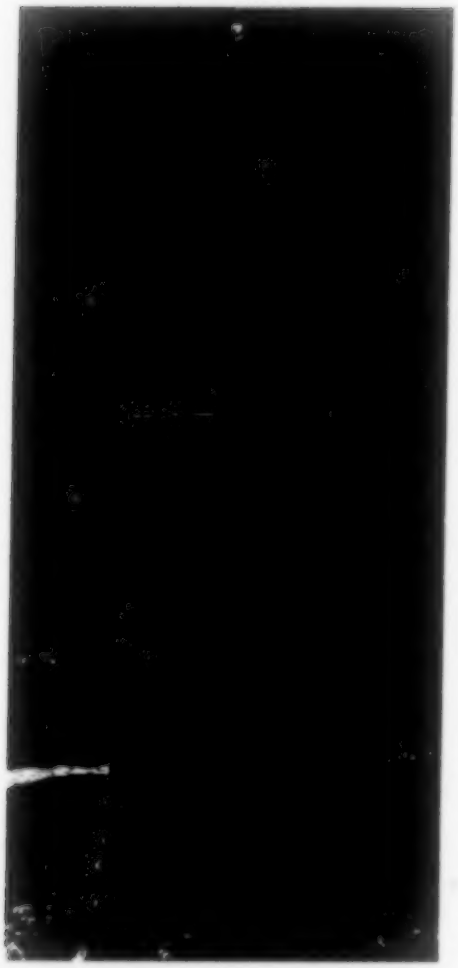

Exhibit 14. "The Spirit of the American Doughboy, (sculpture)." *Dates:* Copyrighted 1920, 1934. Replacement base: 1987. *Medium:* Sculpture: bronze; Base: Vermont granite. *Dimensions:* Sculpture: approx. 83 x 33 1/2 x 57 1/2 in.; Base: approx. 8 ft. 3 in. x 52 in. x 52 in. *Description:* Figure of a World War I infantryman in uniform with field pack, advancing

through the stumps and barbed wire of No Man's Land. He holds a rifle in his proper left hand and a grenade in his upraised proper right hand. Figure is mounted on a rusticated stone base on which rectangular metal plaques are attached. *Owner/Location:* Administered by Winchester Court House, 34 South Main Street, Winchester, Kentucky 40391. Located Winchester Court House, Cleveland Avenue, Lawn, Winchester, Kentucky. *Repository:* Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture, Smithsonian American Art Museum, P.O. Box 37012, MRC 970, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012. *Control Number:* IAS 47260050.

The Bladensburg Peace Cross initially began as a project of the Good Roads League of Prince George's County. This organization sought to dedicate the highway between Bladensburg to Annapolis as the "National Defense Highway" as a way in the words of solicitation letter to "honor your comrades" lost in the war and also include a Memorial Cross at the beginning of the Highway. Although the Cross when completed listed only the names of the fallen from George's County, fundraisers for Memorial sought and received financial gifts from national leaders and residents of the District of Columbia along with those from Prince George's County.[26] In this era,

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[26] "Highway to be Memorial" *Washington Post* (June 8, 1919), page p. A11; "Sacrifice Cross for Soldiers," *Washington Post,* (July 11, 1919) p. 5; "Lawn Fete for Memorial," *Washington Post,* (August 7, 1919), p. 7; Wounded Yanks Subscribe," *Washington Post,* (August 18, 1919), p. 12; "Gift from Miss Wilson," *Washington Post,* (August 9, 1919), p. 8.

Prince George's County developed growing ties with the District. In this period, many communities were linked to the water and sewer system of the nation's capital. Several towns connected to the District by train lines served as bedroom communities for government workers.[27]

Those seeking funds stressed the religious symbolism of the Cross by referring to it as a "Calvary" Cross; a clear reference to the Christian belief that Jesus was crucified at this place.[28] In his address dedicating the Memorial, U.S. Representative Stephen W. Gambrill stressed the Christian symbolism of the Cross declaring to the assembled crowd that it remained "symbolic of Calvary," a not so subtle reference to crucifixion of Jesus and promise of resurrection.[29]

Any historical analysis of the Bladensburg Peace Cross must take in account how the Latin Cross served as particularly divisive symbol in the 1920s. The Ku Klux Klan, a nativist organization used the Latin Cross in their rituals and it served as one of the sacred symbols of this organization. The Cross had significant theological meaning in Klan ideology and one scholar observed that it "served as a memorial of Christ's debt for human sin as well as his

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[27] Roger J. Brugger, *Maryland: A Middle Temperament, 1634-1980* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press and Maryland Historical Society, 1988), pp. 443-47.

[28] "Highway to be Memorial," *Washington Post*, (June 8, 1919). A-11.

[29] "Legion Dedicates Bladensburg War Memorial Cross" *Washington Post*, (July 13, 1924), p. 14.

merit filled action."[30] For the Klan, the Cross remained connected to the cause of 100 percent Americanism that by definition excluded, "Catholics who had allegiance to a foreign entity, the pope; Jews who refused to assimilate; and African Americans" deemed to be members of a "lesser" race.[31]

The Klan attracted significant membership in a number of Midwestern, Border, and Southern states. Maryland was no exception. For instance, on June 1, 1924, Klansmen from Virginia and Washington, DC, joined those from Hyattsville, Maryland, to provide Allen M. Chase, a slain law enforcement officer, with a full "Ku Klux Klan" funeral on June 1, 1924. The funeral service would take place less than a year before the Cross would be dedicated in neighboring Bladensburg. The Washington Post reported that 400 robed Klansmen wearing robes together with hoods marched behind the hearse as it travelled from the chapel of Gasch's Sons, undertakers to the Fort Lincoln Cemetery. Once they reached the cemetery, the Klansmen formed a square around the cemetery while the Rev. C. H. Cannon, pastor of the area's Methodist Episcopal Church and the unnamed "exalted cyclopls and king keagle" presided over the service. As part of the rites, the Klansmen simultaneously raised their "left hand to the skies" while the "Klan Glee Club" sang the "Fiery Cross."[32]

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[30] Kelly J. Baker, *Gospel According to the Klan: The KKK's Appeal to Protestant America, 1915-1930* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2011), p. 74

[31] Baker, *KKK's Appeal*, 76

[32] David M. Chalmers, *Hooded Americanism: The History of the Ku Klux Klan*, 2d edition (New York: Franklin Watts, 1981),

The Klan used the burning cross as symbol of terror directed at Roman Catholics, Jews, and African Americans. The reemergence of the Klan in the late 1910s and 1920s marked a concern among certain segments of native born white Protestants who feared the growing presence of the Roman Catholics and Jews while also remained committed to white supremacy along with maintaining Jim Crow segregation. African Americans leaders and the black press in the Greater Washington, DC, expressed alarm at the growth of the Klan and their rising influence, reflected in 100,000 robed Klansmen parading down Pennsylvania Avenue.[33]

The records of one Prince George's County Klan group from this era survive and they record an active organization seeking to wield political power and influence the local schools. The minutes of the Knights of the Klux Klux Klan No. 51, Mt Rainier, Maryland reported that the Fiery Cross Committee in 1925 had burned several crosses that year. One of these Crosses was burnt in close proximity of the Peace Memoria1.[34]

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pp. 159-61. "Elaborate Klan Ceremony at Allen Chase's Funeral" *Washington Post* (June 2, 1924), P. 2.

[33] "Ku Klux in Washington" *Washington Tribune* (August 7, 1921); "Tribune Gets Mysterious Warning: Signed KKK and Put Under Door at Night" *Washington Tribune* (October 3, 1921), 1; "Klan Threatens Virginia Votes," *Washington Tribune* (October 8, 1921), p. 3.

[34] Klan Minutes, February 26, 1925, March 26, 1925 "The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, Klan No. 51, Mt. Rainier, Maryland archives" at the University of Maryland's Hornbake Library, College Park, Maryland.

Whether members of the Klan donated funds for the Bladensburg Peace Cross is impossible to ascertain. The Synder-Farmer Post No. 3 of the American Legion played a crucial role in raising funds in the early 1920s to complete the Peace Cross. The American Legion relation with Klan during the 1920s remained complex. A number of Klansmen were members of the American Legion during this era. At the same time, many Legion members condemned the Klan and a number of individual posts opposed the action of this organization. After a bitter debate, the national convention of the American Legion in 1923 refused to pass a resolution to condemn this organization.[35]

In an era of heightened sectarian tension and anti-Catholic sentiment, both a Roman Catholic and a Baptist minister took part in the dedication ceremony on July 12, 1925, for the Bladensburg Peace Cross. But the ceremony dedicating the Cross suggested the limits of inclusiveness. No rabbi or Jewish leader took part in the dedication of the Peace Cross despite the close proximity of Bladensburg to both Washington, DC, and Baltimore with their substantial Jewish communities.[36]

Did the giant Cross located on major highway route just outside the District of Columbia serve as a marker that Jews were not welcome in Prince

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[35] William Pencak, *For God and Country: The American Legion* (Boston: Northeastern University Press, 1989), pp. 137-41.

[36] Laura Burd Schiavo, "Washington, D.C," *Encyclopedia Judaica*, 2nd Edition, Edited by Michael Berenbaum and Fred Skolnik. (Detroit: Macmillan Reference, 2007), pp. 678-682.

George's County? For most Jews, especially observant Jews, it would be surprising if they did not view the Bladensburg Peace Cross as an overtly hostile Christian symbol, especially if they were driving by this monument in an automobile. Moreover, those who sponsored the Bladensburg Cross, especially at the dedication ceremony, stressed the overt Christian character of it.

Despite a substantial African American population in Prince George's County, no black minister or leader took part in the dedication ceremony either. Moreover, American Legion posts in Maryland like those in other southern states were segregated by race.[37] An African American jazz group would play at fundraiser sponsored by the Snyder-Farmer post and this is the only evidence of any black participation in the Bladensburg Peace Cross fundraising campaign.[38] At another fundraiser put on by the post, members performed a ministerial show with the help of the local high school and an outside production company.[39] Although no record exists of the content of this show, most scholars have described them as shows that conveyed a host of racist stereotypes regarding African American behavior and culture. It should be observed that members of that African Americans from Prince George's County did serve in World War 1.[40]

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[37] Pencak, *For God and Country,* pp. 68-69.

[38] "History of the Snyder-Farmer Legion Post 3" (Prince George's County Historical Society), p19

[39] "History of the Snyder-Farmer Legion Post 3," p. 16 40

[40] http://www.anacostiatrails.org/trailblazers.pdf

The exclusion of African Americans from the ceremonies dedicating the Bladensburg Peace Cross and their marginal role in the efforts to raise funds for the memorial reflected the prevailing patterns of discrimination and segregation in Maryland during the interwar years. By law and custom, public accommodations, public schools, and the National Guard in Maryland were segregated by race. Race-restrictive covenants were widely used in this era to perpetuate residential segregation by race. Attached herein as Exhibits A and B are a mere sampling of such deeds from the 1920s-1950s containing race-restrictive covenants in Prince George's County. For instance, a deed recorded in 1936 in Prince George's County contained the following covenant: "At no time shall the above described lots or any part thereof, or any building thereon erected be sold, leased to, transferred to, or occupied by any Negro or person of Negro of African descent." (Exhibit A).

Post World War I Memorials

Since World War I, most war memorials remain secular and relatively few make use of overt sectarian symbols. In the immediate aftermath of World War II, most communities embraced living memorials such as hospitals, parks, highways, stadiums, community centers, and other utilitarian structure to memorialize the war dead and veterans. After the Vietnam War there witnessed a renewed interest in buildir war memorials, but most avoided religious imagery or symbols. For instance, the national memorials to World War II, Korea, and Vietnam War in nation's capital eschew religious symbolism. The supplementary monuments built to honor the war dead of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam near the

Bladensburg Peace Cross also avoid religious symbolism. In short, the Bladensburg Cross is an aberration historically, even in the era it was built and dedicated.[41]

The lack of such sectarian symbolism mirrored efforts by the U.S. armed forces in World War II and later wars to respect religious pluralism. Before World War II, the Army Chief of Chaplains, Brigadier General and Roman Catholic Monsignor William R. Arnold convinced Congress to appropriate funds to build chapels to promote the free exercise of religion. In order to fulfill the mandate of inclusiveness and to prevent the establishment of religion, all religious symbols (e.g. Stars of David, Crosses) were designed to be removable or easily covered so as not offend individuals from other faiths.[42] Significant protests

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[41] Piehler, *Remembering War the American Way*, passim.

[42] War Department, A.S. F. Office, Chief of Chaplains, May 1, 1943, Addenda to Cicular Letter No. 272, May, 1, 1943. Papers of Mark T. Warner, File: Office of the Corps Chaplains, 1929 (1), Box 2, Papers of Mark T. Warner Papers, Bentley Library, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. In his circular letters Chaplain Arnold excerpts a letters that he sent to a chaplain that stated. "Our chapels have been built by a government which declares that man shall be free to worship God as seems best to himself. They have been so designed that men of all creeds and faiths may enter therein and worship. The building of chapels was approved by the War Department and funds for their construction were appropriated by Congress only after it was made clear that each chapel would be available for religious purposes by military personnel of all faiths." In this circular letter he also reminded chaplains that "Art paintings, fixtures, and statuary should be so attached that they can readily be removed. In chapels where such fixtures have already been permanently attached drapes should be made to

emerged from the Roman Catholic hierarchy when priests serving as chaplains or Catholic soldiers were compelled to participate in ecumenical religious services on the orders of a commander.[43] On several occasions the senior leadership of the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy reminded the chain of command that participation in religious services must be voluntary.

The respect for religious pluralism is reflected in efforts to ensure the identification and burial of the war dead during World War II and later the Korean War. The Cross never served as default marker for all those killed in battle and army regulations mandated that they placed only over the graves of individuals known to be Christians. The U.S. Army even

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cover these when particular service of that denomination is completed." *See also* Deborah Dash Moore, *GI Jews: How World War II Changed a Generation* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2004), p. 130.

[43] Military Ordinariate, Circular Letter No. 32, June 10, 1943, File: Circular Letters to Chaplains, Box 9, Papers of John F. O'Hara, University of Notre Dame Archives, Notre Dame, Indiana. In this circular letter, the Ordinariate observed, "A disagreeable note has appeared here and there, as it does at Christmas and on one or two other days during the year. We refer to the 'formation' or 'required religious service.' Sometimes a Commanding Officer who does not understand fully either service regulations or Cannon Law will issue an order for a joint religious service, with required attendance... Neither Catholic chaplains nor Catholic service personnel are permitted to take part in religious services other than those of their own faith ... Catholics recognize the right of others to worship God according to conscience, and expect similar recognition—which is guaranteed by our Constitution. President Roosevelt has declared that freedom of religion is one of the rights for which we are now at war, and Catholics are fighting wholeheartedly for the defense of that right."

developed a distinctive non-sectarian grave marker to be placed over the graves of soldiers whose religious identities could not be determined.[44] Chaplain Israel A.S. Yost, a Lutheran pastor serving with the Japanese American 100th Battalion placed them over the graves of Buddhist soldiers from his unit killed in battle.[45]

After World War II ended, families repatriated nearly 70 percent of the war dead for burial in military cemeteries or private burial grounds in the continental United States. Again, the American Battle Monuments Commission only allowed next of kin to select a Cross or Star of David for those would be buried in overseas cemeteries. But in the continental United States, next of kin could receive a flat headstone provided by the federal government that contained no religious inscription. Moreover, religious inscriptions used on governmental headstones make up only a small portion of the iconography on the stone.[46]

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[44] War Department, *Technical Manual 10-630: Graves Registration* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1941), pp. 11-12; War Department, *FM 10-63, War Department Field Manual Graves Registration* (Washington: Government Printing Office, January 1945), p. 5.

[45] Israel A.S. Yost, Combat Chaplain, *The Personal Story of the World War II Chaplain of the Japanese American 100th Battalion* (Honolulu: University of Hawaii, 2006). See also, Thomas Bruscino, A Nation Forged in War: How World War 11 Taught Americans to Get Along (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2010), passim

[46] Piehler, *Remembering War the American Way*, pp. 129-132.

During the Korean War and in the all the remaining wars since, the United States has repatriated all the war dead for burial in either a national cemetery or private burial ground.[47] The free standing Latin Cross or Star of David used in overseas cemeteries maintained by the American Battle Monuments Commission are not used in national cemeteries maintained by the federal government.

CONCLUSION

The Bladensburg Peace Cross prominently features a Christian religious symbol that excludes non-Christians, as well as some Christians. The available historical evidence makes clear that the Cross has never been considered a universal marker for the all soldiers who died in their nation's services. Since the founding of the republic, most war memorials have avoided the use of the Cross or other sectarian religious symbols. The Bladensburg Cross can only be seen as intended to commemorate the service and sacrifice of Christian soldiers to the exclusion of non-Christians, and even some Christians.

Report by

/s/
G. Kurt Piehler

Date: 14 November 2014

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[47] Piehler, *Remembering War the American Way*, pp. 155-57.

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IN THE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

Civil Action No. 8:14cv-14-550

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, ,
FRED EDWORDS, BISHOP MCNEILL, AND STEVEN LOWE,
Plaintiffs,

vs.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK &
PLANNING COMMISSION,
Defendant,

Filed May 5, 2014

Expert Rebuttal Report of
G. Kurt Piehler, Ph.D.

I have been asked by Plaintiffs' attorneys to address the opinions set forth in the Expert Witness Report of Professor Jay M. Winter ("Winter"), offered by the American Legion (hereafter "Winter Report"). My qualifications and compensation are set forth in the Expert Report of G. Kurt Piehler dated November 14, 2014, and are incorporated by reference herein. This Rebuttal Report incorporates by reference all the facts and opinions stated in my previous report as if fully stated herein.

I am in receipt of the report by Winter that was prepared in response to my November 14, 2014, Expert Report. I have reviewed in detail the opinions presented in the Winter Report. The following is a summary of his opinions, and a summary of my rebuttal of those that are incorrect. I have based my

opinion on matters presented to me or made known to me prior to writing this Expert Rebuttal Report. All evaluations and conclusions presented in this report are based on my experience and understanding of the documented sources of information.

A selection of the cited references in this report are listed in the footnotes herein and in the Appendix to my original report. If any additional matters are presented or made known to me, or if I review any additional materials, I may alter my opinions contained herein. I may also provide supplemental opinions, if requested.

The following information is provided pursuant to Rule 26(a)(2)(B) and the Scheduling Order entered in this action.

I. SUMMARY OF MY REBUTTAL TESTIMONY

I will provide rebuttal expert witness testimony, primarily on the following areas:

- The inherently religious and sectarian nature of the Bladensburg Cross
- The significant differences in the impact of World War I on American society compared with the British Empire. Americans suffered fewer casualties than the British Empire and also most American war dead were identified. The majority of American war dead were repatriated to the United States at the request of their parents or spouses. Without minimizing the grief of those who saw a son or spouse killed in World War I from Prince George's County, most of the war dead from this county were not buried in overseas cemeteries maintained by the Ameri-

can Battle Monuments Commission. This memorial did not for the vast majority of next of kin serve as proxy in place of soldier's grave or a grave located at an American Battle Commission cemetery.

- The factual errors committed by Winter in regards to: (1) the various uses of the Cross property, including governmental uses; (2) the names of the soldiers listed on the Cross monument; and (3) the degree to which the Stone of Altar is secularized by the use of a quote from the book of Ecclesiasticus which is considered part of the Biblical cannon by the Roman Catholic Church and the Church of England
- The erroneous assumptions made by Winter in regards to his arguments regarding: (1) the largely non-sectarian nature of the Stone of Remembrance and Cross; (2) the motives of officials of the Imperial War Commission regarding Christian and other sectarian religious monuments; and (3) the controversial nature of the use of the Cross in American society.

II. DETAILED EXPERT REBUTTAL OPINIONS

A. The Site of the Bladensburg Cross and the Religious Nature of the Bladensburg Cross

1. In Paragraph 12, Winter asserts that the none of the elements on the Bladensburg Peace Cross are religious in nature and notes the inscription of the American Legion symbol on the Cross along with the words "Devotion, Valor, Endurance, and Courage" inscribed on the base of the memorial. These minor features hardly secularize what is clearly a sectarian

Christian symbol. The small Legion symbol – a star shape with the word "U.S." in the center – is placed on only one side of the Cross and it is not the dominant feature of this memorial. In fact, having the word "U.S." in the center of the cross makes it even more apparent to a reasonable observer that the cross is a government-sponsored monument. Moreover, given the location of the monument on a busy highway, most passing motorists would not even notice the American Legion iconography or the other inscriptions on the base. In paragraph 13, Winter quotes the plaque on the memorial and the quote of President Woodrow Wilson to support his position that the cross is secular. Again, this plaque is not the dominant feature of the monument and the passing motorist is even less likely to read it. Is also debatable whether the Cross takes the form of a Celtic Cross or a Latin Cross, but the debate is of little relevance since both are indisputably Christian, not secular, symbols. A Latin Cross is an equal-armed cross with a longer foot. The Bladensburg Cross takes the form of a Latin Cross. If anything, the Bladensburg Cross more closely resembles the Irish High Cross, which is a Latin Cross with a halo or circle connecting each bar, rather than the traditional Celtic Cross, wherein each bar is equal-armed. Regardless, it is unclear how the use of a Celtic Cross or the Irish High Cross makes the symbol used in the Bladensburg Peace Cross any less sectarian, as it is clearly a sectarian Christian symbol. The Celtic Cross and Irish High Cross, like the Latin cross, is a traditional Christian symbol.[1] As dis-

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[1] *See* C. Scantlebury, The High Crosses of Ireland, *The Irish*

cussed in more detail in my original report and below, the history of the Bladensburg Peace Cross underscores its distinct Christian nature and purpose.

2. When a monument was first proposed for Bladensburg, newspaper accounts and supporters of it referred to it as a "Calvary Cross."[2] (See Exhibit 1, attached herein). In paragraph 14, Winter asserts that the reference to Calvary relates to "the suffering and sacrifice of American soldiers who died in the war, and not to Christ." There is no support for this proposition whatsoever. Representative Stephen Gambrill spoke at the dedication uttered the phrase: "You men of Prince George's County fought for the sacred right of all to live in peace and security, and by the **token of this Cross, symbolic of Calvary**, let us keep fresh the memory of our boys who died for a righteous cause." (emphasis added). It is interesting that in the construction of the sentence, Representative Gambrill does not say: "the token of the Cross, symbolic of the sacrifice of those who died in a righteous cause." In any event, the term "sacrifice" – especially when used in conjunction with the word "Calvary" – is evidently a direct reference to the "sacrifice" of Jesus Christ dying on the Cross. Moreover, the term Calvary is capitalized in the *Washington Post* account of the report of the dedication

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Monthly, Vol. 53, No. 624 (Jun., 1925), pp. 293-298

[2] Washington, Post, June 8, 1919, p. A11. Later is would be the "sacrifice Cross", see Washington Post, August 7, 1919, p. 7, and "Memorial Cross" see January 6, 1924, *Washington Post*, June 6, 1924. At the dedication of the monument, the unsigned newspaper article terms it as an unadorned "Cross."

ceremony. Representative Gambrill spoke specifically of Calvary as the place and symbol for crucifixion and sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Can the term of Calvary have other meanings as suggested by Winter? The *Oxford English Dictionary* in defining the terms only references meaning related to Christianity and the Cross:

> Calvary, *n.*
>
> **Pronunciation:** /ˈkælvərɪ/
>
> **Etymology:** < Latin *calvāria* skull, used to translate Aramaic *gogulJo* or *gogolJa* 'the skull' (Hebrew *gulgoleJ* skull, poll), in Greek transliteration *γο2γοΟά*, the name of the mount of the Crucifixion, near Jerusalem.
>
> 1. The proper name of the place where Christ was crucified. (Rendered in Old English *Headpan-stow*.) Also used generically.
>
> c1000 *West Saxon Gospels*: Luke (Corpus Cambr.) xxiii. 33 Hig comon on þa stowe þe is genemned caluarie þæt is heafod-pannan stow.
>
> *c*1000 *West Saxon Gospels: Matt.* (Corpus Cambr.) xxvii. 31 Golgotha, þæt ys, heafod-pannan stow.
>
> 1382 *Bible (*Wycliffite, E.V.*)* Luke xxiii. 33 And aftir that thei camen in to a place, which is clepid of Caluarie [*a*1425 Caluerie].
>
> 1382 *Bible* (Wycliffite, E.V.) Matt. xxvii. 33 Clepid Golgatha, that is, the place of Caluarie.
>
> 1878 'G. Eliot' *College Breakfast Party* in *Macmillan's Mag.* July 167 A Calvary where Reason mocks at Love.

1878 *N. Amer. Rev.* 342 A new Calvary and a new Pentecost in reserve for these coheritors of the doom.

2. [French *calvaire*] *R.C. Church*.

a. A life-size representation of the Crucifixion, on a raised ground in the open air.

1815 M.A. Schimmelpenninck *Demolit. Monast. Port Royal* III. 206 She also took her for three weeks to the calvary of the Luxembourg.

1846 R. Hart *Eccl. Rec.* (ed. 2) 223 Of the Golgotha, or Calvary, which represented on a large scale the circumstances of the Passion, with images of S. Mary and S. John, our Saviour on the Cross, and sometimes the two thieves, grouped in the open air, we have no English example.

1884 *Harper's Mag.* Nov. 852/1 By the side of the high-road..is one of those calvaries so associated with the landscape of Catholic countries.

b. A series of representations, in a church or chapel, of the scenes of the Passion. 1728 E. Chambers *Cycl. Calvary*, a Term us'd in Catholic Countries for a kind of Chapel of Devotion, rais'd on a Hillock near a City... Such is the Church of St. Valerian, near Paris; which is accompany'd with several Chapels, in each whereof is represented in Sculpture one of the Mysteries of the Passion.

Compounds

Calvary clover *n.* a name for *Medicago echinus*.

1882 *Garden* 2 Sept. 220/2 Calvary Clover..makes a very pretty basket plant.

Calvary Cross *n.*

1826 W. Kirby & W. Spence *Introd. Entomol.* (1828) III. xxxiv. 483 The front is nearly the shape of a Calvary cross.

1863 D. Wilson *Prehist. Ann. Scotl.* II. 458 Engraved with floriated or Calvary Cross.

Cross Calvary *n.* in *Heraldry*, a cross mounted on a pyramid of three grises or steps.
1678 E. Phillips *New World of Words* (ed. 4) App. s.v., A Cross Calveri.
1727 N. Bailey *Universal Etymol. Eng. Dict.* II. *Calvary* (in Heraldry) as a cross Calvary, is set on Steps to represent the Cross on which our Saviour suffered.

The term "Sacrifice," a term frequently ascribed to the Bladensburg Cross, also has a distinct religious meaning, and obviously so in the context of a Christian Cross. The Oxford Dictionary defines "Sacrifice" as follows:

NOUN

1 An act of slaughtering an animal or person or surrendering a possession as an offering to God or to a divine or supernatural figure: they offer sacrifices to the spirits the ancient laws of animal sacrifice

1.1 An animal, person, or object offered in a sacrifice.

1.2 An act of giving up something valued for the sake of something else regarded as more im-

portant or worthy: we must all be prepared to make sacrifices

1.3 *Christian Church* Christ's offering of himself in the Crucifixion.

1.4 *Christian Church* The Eucharist regarded either (in Catholic terms) as a propitiatory offering of the body and blood of Christ or (in Protestant terms) as an act of thanksgiving.

1.5 *Chess* A move intended to allow the opponent to win a pawn or piece, for strategic or tactical reasons.

1.6 (also sacrifice bunt or sacrifice hit) Baseball A bunted ball that puts the batter out but allows a base runner or runners to advance.

1.7 (also sacrifice bid) Bridge A bid made in the belief that it will be less costly to be defeated in the contract than to allow the opponents to make a contract.

VERB

[with object] Back to top

1 Offer or kill as a religious sacrifice: the goat was sacrificed at the shrine

1.1 Give up (something important or valued) for the sake of other considerations: working hard doesn't mean sacrificing your social life

1.2 Chess Deliberately allow one's opponent to win (a pawn or piece).

1.3 Baseball Advance (a base runner) by a sacrifice.

1.4 [no object] Bridge Make a sacrifice bid.

Origin

> **Middle English: from Old French, from Latin sacrificium; related to sacrificus 'sacrificial', from sacer 'holy'.**[3]

In fundraising for the Bladensburg Cross, contributors signed the following pledge (as shown in Exhibit 1, herein) that further underscored the religious significance of the monument in the minds of those who supported it:

> "We, the citizens of Maryland, trusting in God, the Supreme Ruler of the universe, pledge faith in our brothers who gave their all in the world war to make the world safe for democracy. Their mortal bodies have turned to dust, but their spirit lives to guide us through life in the way of godliness, justice and liberty. With our motto, 'One God, One Country and one Flag,' we contribute to this memorial cross commemorating the memory of those who have not died in vain."

3. Winter claims that "[t]here has been no governmental usage of the site, which has served a commemorative function and no other." (¶15). Has the site of Bladensburg Cross only been used for non-governmental commemorative functions as Winter claims in paragraph 15? The answer is no. (See Exhibit 2, attached herein). First, Winter is patently wrong in claiming that there "has been no governmental usage of the site," when in fact, the Town of Bladensburg and the Commission (Defendant) have

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[3] "sacrifice." Oxford Dictionaries. Oxford University Press. http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/us/definition/american_english/sacrifice (accessed January 26, 2015) (emphasis added).

repeatedly sponsored and participated in events held at the Cross site. For instance, the Bladensburg Promotion Committee (an official entity of the Town of Bladensburg), also referred to as the Bladensburg Patriotic Committee, organized a "Salute to America" on July 4, 1984. (Exhibit 2). The Town has sponsored Veteran's Day and Memorial Day ceremonies at the Cross site on a regular basis since at least 1984 until present (for example, the Bladensburg Patriotic Committee sponsored the November 11, 2014 Veteran's Day ceremony). On November 11, 1985, the Prince George's County Planning Board of the National Capital Park and Planning Committee along with the Town of Bladensburg organized by a ceremony rededicating the memorial. The Town of Bladensburg played a central role in organizing ceremonies at the site of Monument on November 11, 1999. In light of this, Winter's assertion "that there is no government usage of the site" is wholly without foundation. Second, many events held at Cross site can be described as non-commemorative. Various governmental entities have organized events at the memorial that can be interpreted as commemorative, but also likely were designed to promote economic development. Religious services have been held at the site as evidenced by a newspaper report in the *Washington Post* on July 25, 1931, noting the Captain Frank Mountford, lauded as leading evangelist and head of the Church of the Army held five Sunday services at the Memorial in August 1931. On or about October 13, 2012, there was a "Save the Peace Cross Demonstration" at the site, which did not serve a commemorative function. A similar "Demonstration" was held at the Cross site on or about May 31, 2014. In 2014, the American Legion hosted a memo-

rial day "service," which appears to be separate from the Memorial Day "ceremony" held on the same day. (Exhibit 2). As mentioned in my previous report, the KKK performed cross burning rituals in close proximity to the memorial. In short, Winter's assertion is completely erroneous.

B. The Problem: Scattering of the Fallen

4. Winter fails to recognize the significant difference between the impact of World War I on the British Empire and the United States. He is correct that the problem of dealing with the dead bodies was a major problem for British forces (and French forces) in World War I (¶16). Moreover, Winter accurately states that approximately half of the ten million men who died in this conflict had no known grave. But Winter implies his pattern also applies to the United States and this is **not** the case for World War I. The Graves Registration Service of the U.S. Army did a commendable job in retrieving and identifying most American war dead. Of the approximately 53,402 battle deaths experienced by American forces in Europe, the number of bodies never recovered was approximately 4,400. (¶27). Of the 75,000 American war dead in Europe whose bodies were recovered by GRS, less than 2.5 of percent lacked identification.[4] The vast majority of American servicemen killed in World War I would have their bodies retrieved and identified.

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[4] Constance Porter and John Dechen, "Care for the Military Dead" *Companion to American Military History* Edited by James C. Bradford (Malden, Mass.: Wiley Blackwell, 2010), p. 1036.

5. During World War I, the United States experienced significant casualties, but in the contrast to the British Empire, the American losses were significantly less. The British Empire lost nearly one million servicemen killed in this conflict and the United States experienced 53,402 battle deaths and another 63,114 from other causes, including the Spanish Influenza.[5] True, these casualty figures are significantly higher in World War I than either Korea or Vietnam War. But they pale to those of the American Civil War, which resulted in a total of approximately *600,000* Union and Confederate deaths. (It is estimated 112,000 Union soldiers and 94,000 Confederate perished in battle. Non-battle deaths were significantly higher and 250,000 Union and 167,000 Confederate perished from other causes.) These statistics for the Civil War are particularly staggering because the United States was a smaller nation demographically in 1861 than in 1917. Drew Gilpin Faust, historian and President of Harvard University in an essay for the National Park Service, observed that casualties experienced by the United States in the Civil War are unparalleled:

> The number of soldiers who died between 1861 and 1865, generally estimated at 620,000, is approximately equal to the total of American fatalities in the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Spanish American War, World War I, World War II, and the Korean War, combined. The Civil War's rate of

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[5] Allan R. Millett and Peter Maslowski, *For the Common Defense: A Military History of the United States of America*, 2nd edition (New York: Free Press, 1994), pp. 653-54.

> death, its incidence in comparison with the size of the American population, was six times that of World War II. A similar rate, about two percent, in the United States today would mean six million fatalities.[6]

In the aftermath of the American Civil War, the U.S. Army made an unprecedented effort to locate, identify and bury the Union war dead in permanent national cemeteries. For Union Army, slightly under half of Union War dead identity would be lost. As Faust observes:

> In the fall of 1865, U.S. Quartermaster General Montgomery Meigs ordered an assessment of the condition and location of graves to ensure their protection, an increasingly urgent issue in face of growing bitterness and defiance in the defeated South. Units of northern soldiers searched across the battle fronts of the war for slain Yankees, inaugurating what became over the next six years a massive federally supported reburial program. Ultimately, 303,536 Union soldiers were reinterred in 74 new national cemeteries, and Congress officially established the national cemetery system. Careful attention to the content of graves and to the documentation that poured in from families and former comrades permitted the

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[6] Drew Gilpin Faust, "Death and Dying" in "Civil War Cemeteries: Honoring Those who Served" National Park Service, http://www.nps.gov/nr/travel/national_cemeteries/death.html (accessed 23 January 2015).

identification of 54 percent of the reburied soldiers.

Since the federal government did not accept responsibility for the Confederate War dead until the early Twentieth Century, the number of unidentified Confederate war dead were significantly higher. Winter argues that in First World War "new circumstances of the scattering of the bodies of those who died in active service in wartime." (¶19). But does this really apply to the United States in World War I? In fact, compared to the Civil War which had a staggering percentage of fatalities and almost half of all the war dead were never identified with a name, World War I for the United States saw reduced overall casualties and for those American servicemen who died, there identities were in most cases not lost in death.

C. Ecumenical Solutions and Practices

6. Winter asserts that Bladensburg Cross provided mothers a site where she "could go, and could see and touch the names of the plaque and feel in some sense they had come home." (¶21). However, by the time the Cross in Bladensburg was dedicated, the repatriation process had been completed on March 22, 1922. In fact, only three names listed on the Cross were buried in overseas cemeteries maintained by the American Battle Monuments Commission: Matthew Curtin, whose grave resides in Aisne-Marne Cemetery as well as William Lee and Herman Winter who graves reside at Meuse-Argonne Cemetery. Although approximately 70 percent of American War dead were repatriated to the United States by parents or their spouses, an even higher percentage of parents/spouses from Prince George's County

decided to bring their fallen sons/husbands home for burial in Prince George's County, Maryland. There are also some discrepancies in the historical record. In the case of a "Mrs. Martin Redman" mentioned in the Winter Report to support this assertion, it does not appear her son was ever memorialized on the Bladensburg Cross. No Redman is listed on the Cross plaque (see Figure A below) and no Redman can be found in the American Battle Monuments Commission database that records the names of all American war dead buried or memorialized in American overseas cemeteries.

Figure A. Photograph of the Bladensburg Cross Plaque.

Indeed, the Defendant in this case turned over all the records it had on the names of the individuals listed on the cross and nowhere in its files of the soldiers named on the plaque were any folders mentioning a "Redman." In the second paragraph of Winter's report, he describes the experiences of Frank Holmes who died at the battle of the Somme. But the Frank Holmes listed in the register of the war dead maintained by the American Battle Mon-

uments Commission is from New York City.[7] Could the Frank Holmes listed on the Bladensburg Cross memorialize the service of Frank Holmes of Washington, DC who died of disease in an army camp in South Carolina?[8] Tragically a significant number of men from Prince George's County, Maryland who died in the war never left the United States. Albert Baden, Harry Dennison, Joseph Edelen, Edward Fletcher, Albert Smith, John Sprigg, William Tayman, and Elmer Thomas, died of disease in army camps in the State of Maryland. Herman Burgess, Clarence Butler, James Cooper, Ernest Garner, Frank Holmes, Frank Richmond, Herbert Page Tolson, Benjamin Thompson, Walter Wilson, and Herbert White died of disease while stationed at army or navy bases in the United States. Even if the Bladensburg Cross during the interwar years served as a site of mourning for some survivors who could not visit the grave of the son or spouse, most mourners were able to visit the grave of their fallen son or husband at a nearby private graveyard or national cemetery. Regardless, none of this serves to negate the overwhelming Christian nature of the Bladensburg Cross.

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[7] Brigadier General J. Leslie Kincaid, compiler, *Roll of Honor: Citizens of the State of New York who died while in Service to the United States during* (Albany, NY: J.B. Lyon, 1922) p. 259. Frank Holmes, Burial Records, American Battle Monuments Commission, http://www.abmc.gov/search-abmc-burials-and-memorializations/detail/WWI_5400#.VMVzClrHOX0 Accessed 25 January 2015.

[8] *Maryland in the World War 1917-1919; Military and Naval Service Records, Volumes I & II Baltimore City*.

7. Did American post-World War I generation have a preoccupation with the "shock" of American loss of life in the world war? (Winter Report ¶2). The precedent for establishing overseas cemeteries began not with the First World War, but it occurred for the first time after the Mexican American War.[9] As George Mosse and other scholars of memory of war have observed, the American Civil War established the precedent for a massive effort by a national government to create permanent cemeteries for the rank and file soldier killed in military service.[10] In my first report, I described at length the memorialization process in the Nineteenth Century and the lack of crosses in *American* national cemeteries to mark graves. Winter manifestly ignores this distinctive American pattern of remembrance that largely avoided sectarian religion symbols on war memorials. The same applies to medal of valor and other military awards given to servicemen who have distinguished themselves. The first military decoration used by the U.S. Military in 1782, the Badge of Military Merit, avoided religious symbolism as did the Certificate of Merit (1847), and the Congressional Medal of Honor (1861). Other countries such as Germany as Winter asserts in paragraph 2 may have a longer tradition of using the Cross as part of a military medal, but in the case of the United States it was only in 1918 and 1919 the United States

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[9] G. Kurt Piehler, *Remembering War the American War* (Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press), pp. 41-43.

[10] George Mosse, *Fallen Soldiers: Reshaping the Memory of the World Wars* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1990), passim.

established the Distinguished Service Cross, and the Navy Cross.[11] Given the significant antipathy toward the symbol of the Cross as a sectarian symbol in Nineteenth Century in the United States its absence on military decorations is not surprising. Moreover, the Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross and Distinguished Flying Cross do not replicate the Latin or Celtic Cross and add a number of symbols to it to essentially make a distinctive symbol:

Figure B. Distinguished Service Cross. The Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) is the second highest military decoration that can be awarded to a member of the United States Army (and previously, the United States Army Air Forces). It is awarded for extraordinary heroism:

- While engaged in action against an enemy of the United States;
- While engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or

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[11] David T. Zabecki, "Medals and Decorations" in A Companion to American Military History. Edited James C. Bradford (Malden, Mass.: Wiley Blackwell, 2010): chapter 59, passim.

- While serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.

Actions that merit the Distinguished Service Cross must be of such a high degree that they are above those required for all other U.S. combat decorations but do not merit award of the Medal of Honor. The Distinguished Service Cross is equivalent to the Navy Cross (Navy and Marine Corps, and Coast Guard when operating under the authority of the Department of the Navy) and the Air Force Cross (Air Force). Source: http://valor.defense.gov/DescriptionofAwards.aspx

Figure C. Navy Cross. The Navy Cross is the second highest military decoration that may be awarded to a member of the United States Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, (and to members of the Coast Guard when operating under the authority of the Department of the Navy). It is awarded for extraordinary heroism:

- While engaged in action against an enemy of the United States;

- While engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or
- While serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.

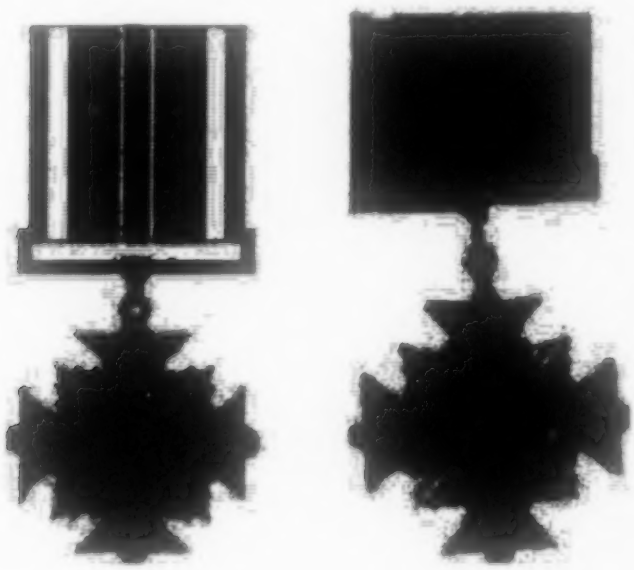
Actions that merit the Navy Cross must be of such a high degree that they are above those required for all other U.S. combat decorations but do not merit award of the Medal of Honor. The Navy Cross is equivalent to the Distinguished Service Cross (Army) and the Air Force Cross (Air Force). Source: http://valor.defense.gov/DescriptionofAwards.aspx

Figure D. Air Force Cross. The Air Force Cross is the second highest military decoration that may be awarded to a member of the United States Air Force. It is awarded for extraordinary heroism:

- While engaged in action against an enemy of the United States;
- While engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force; or

- While serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party.

Actions that merit the Air Force Cross must be of such a high degree that they are above those required for all other U.S. combat decorations but do not merit award of the Medal of Honor. The Air Force Cross is equivalent to the Distinguished Service Cross (Army) and the Navy Cross (Navy and Marine Corps, and Coast Guard when operating under the authority of the Department of the Navy). Source:
http://valor.defense.gov/DescriptionofAwards.aspx



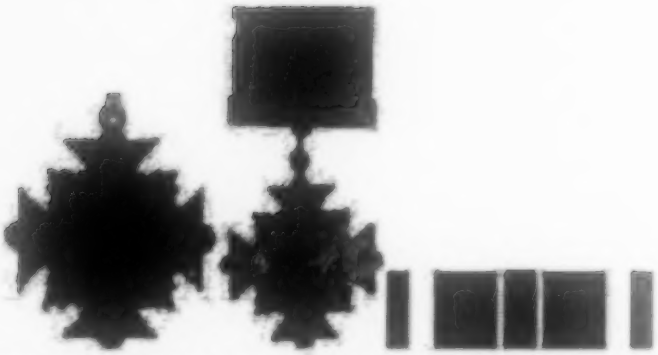


Figure E. Distinguished Flying Cross (Front, Rear, and Ribbon). A Bronze cross patee on which is superimposed a four-bladed propeller, 1 11/16 inches in width. Five rays extended from the reentrant angles, forming a one-inch square. The medal is suspended from a rectangular shaped bar. The ribbon is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of the following stripes: 3/32 inch Ultramarine Blue 67118; 9/64 inch White 67101; 11/32 inch Ultramarine Blue 67118; 3/64 inch White 67101; center stripe 3/32 inch Old Glory Red 67156; 3/64 inch White 67101; 11/32 inch Ultramarine Blue 67118; 9/64 inch White 67101; 3/32 inch Ultramarine Blue 67118. See Army Regulation 600-8-22, Military Awards. The Distinguished Flying Cross was established in the Air Corps Act (Act of Congress, 2 July 1926, Public Law No. 446, 69th Congress). This act provided for award "to any person, while serving in any capacity with the Air Corps of the Army of the United States, including the National Guard and the Organized Reserves, or with the United States Navy, since the 6th day of April 1917, has distinguished, or who, after the approval of this Act, distinguishes himself by heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight."

Source:
http://www.tioh.hqda.pentagon.mil/Catalog/Heraldry.aspx?HeraldryId=15249&CategoryId=3&grp=4&menu=Decorations%20and%20Medals&ps=24&p=0 and http://www.dfcsociety.net/the-medal/

8. It is worth underscoring that while Crosses are found in overseas cemeteries maintained by the American Battle Monuments Commission, these Crosses mark *individual* graves. These Crosses do not serve as a universal government-sponsored monument to honor all the war dead. Such is evident also by the fact that the Star of David would be used to mark the burial site of the Jewish war dead. Moreover, much of Winter's report dwells on a discussion of Imperial War Grave memorialization efforts and those of the British Dominions. He surprisingly limits his discussion to Imperial Commission and dominions of Canada and Australia and mentions the rest of the British Empire only in passing. Lord Wilf Stevenson, member of the British House of Lords in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland observed in an online publication that it is important to recognize the significant contribution of the imperial forces to British war effort in 1914-1918. In 2013, he wrote on the often ignored contribution of people from Africa, Asia and Caribbean during World War I (observing that "[t]here were around 55,000 soldiers from Africa – mainly Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda, Zimbabwe, South Africa and Kenya – who mainly fought against the German African colonies"), noting that when you visit the major war graves in the Low Counties, "you can find the memorials to the 47,000 troops from the Indian sub-continent who died on the western front. And there are Sikh memorials, Jewish and Muslim

graves, and the grave markers of members of the Chinese Labour Corps."[12] When World War I broke, Muslim soldiers from India and their families were promised by the Viceroy of India that traditional burial practices would be respected for those who died while serving overseas. Is Winter suggesting that Christian Crosses, even temporary ones, were placed over Muslim graves? In 1915, Maulvie Sadr-Ud-Dis, the leading Mahommedan leader in England issued a statement describing how at the outbreak of the First World War he oversaw and paid with own funds the cost of burial for several Muslin soldiers from the Indian Army who died of their wounds in British hospitals in order to ensure they received a funeral and grave consistent with Muslim funeral practices. He stressed to British officials that Muslim soldiers should *not* be buried in a Christian cemetery. While underscoring his loyalty to the King, this Muslim cleric urged the British Government to live up to its commitments to recognize the sectarian differences among the fallen.[13] Ultimately, the British Government did arrange for a suitable cemetery for those Indian soldiers of the Muslim faith who died of wounds while stationed in England. There is much commendable about British burial

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[12] Lord Wilf Stevenson, "In Flanders Fields: and elsewhere too" (20 June 2013), Labour Lords Website, http://www.labourlords.org.uk/in-flanders-fields-and-elsewhere-too (accessed January 26, 2015).

[13] Letter about the burial of Muslim Indian soldiers. Shelfmark: Mss Eur F 143/80. http://www.bl.uk/learning/images/asiansinbritain/large124395.html (accessed January 25, 2015). See Exhibit 3 attached herein.

practices and the respect for the religious pluralism of Imperial forces. For instance, the United Kingdom (and France as well) made provision for the cremation of the soldiers from the Indian Army of the Hindu faith and scattering their ashes in a body of water.[14]

9. Winter hails the Imperial War Graves Commission as a model for the United States observing that the United had "learned much from the pioneering work" of this body. (¶¶28-29). He stresses this body ought to go beyond "strictly denominational forms of commemoration" and "made room for a composite array of symbols." He makes a statement this body was "soon composed of all the countries of the British Empire and Dominions," but were the Crown Colonies given a vote on the Commission? He also states that the American Battle Monuments Commission (¶29) learned from this body. Although officially the Commission insisted that there would equality and uniformity of commemoration, not all war dead were treated equally. For instance, the bodies of white and black soldiers buried in Africa were treated differently:

> Broadly speaking, the [Imperial War] Commission accepted the view of the British colonial authorities that Africans had not reached 'the stage of civilization' at which individual graves would be appreciated. They decided to

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[14] George Morton-Jack, *The Indian Army on the Western Front: India's Expeditionary Force to France and Belgium in the First World War* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014), p. 292

> put up 'central memorials' in the towns, commemorating unnumbered and unnamed African lives lost. They differentiated sharply between the graves of whites or Europeans (including their German enemies), and those of natives. What they called 'white graves' have been maintained in perpetuity, often through exhumation and reburial in 'concentrated' cemeteries. Many identified graves of Africans were abandoned; in a move that Commissions wryly referred to as 'sent Missing', the names were simply reallocated to memorials to the missing. Religion was important as well as race, and there is evidence of converted Christian Africans being treated differently from their pagan brethren.[15]

10. There are several obvious reason why the Cross was not used by the British as a default grave marker, beginning with the fact it is difficult to imagine that the large number of non-Christians who made up the Indian Army would have accepted this sectarian marker. Moreover, Winter surprisingly does not mention that repatriation of the war dead **was not** a decision that families could make after the war ended. The British Government insisted that soldiers who died in he war would be buried in battlefield cemeteries and next of kin were required

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[15] Michele Barrett, "Afterword: Death and afterlife: Britain's colonies and its dominions" in *Race, Empire and First World War Writing*. Edited by Santanu Das (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2011), p.303. Professor Jay Winter is listed in the acknowledgment of this edited anthology as reader for this volume prior to publication (ix.)

to accept this decision. Given the British Empire's appropriation of the war dead, it was astute and showed a respect for religious pluralism that it did not to impose a sectarian Cross over the graves of Hindus, Muslims, Shiks, Buddhists, Jews, and other soldiers from other religious faiths buried often far from home. In contrast, as Winter notes in his report, the United States did permit the repatriation of the war dead.

11. The Imperial War Commission erected sectarian monuments for other religions other than Christianity. For instance, the Christian Cross is not be found on the Indian Neuve-Chapell Memorial and unveiled in 1927. According the official Website of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission:

> The Indian Memorial at Neuve Chapelle commemorates over 4,700 Indian soldiers and labourers who lost their lives on the Western Front during the First World War and have no known graves. The location of the memorial was specially chosen as it was at Neuve Chapelle in March 1915 that the Indian Corps fought its first major action as a single unit. The memorial takes the form of a sanctuary enclosed within a circular wall after the manner of the enclosing railings of early Indian shrines. The column in the foreground of the enclosure stands almost 15 feet high and was inspired by the famous inscribed columns erected by the Emperor Ashkora throughout India in the 3rd century BC. The column is surmounted with a Lotus capital, the Imperial British Crown and the Star of India. Two tigers are carved on either side of the column

> guarding the temple of the dead. On the lower part of the column the words 'God is One, He is the Victory' are inscribed in English, with similar texts in Arabic, Hindi, and Gurmukhi.[16]

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission describes another effort to commemorate fallen Hindu and Sikhs who died in England during World War I at the Patcham Down Indian Forces Cremation Memorial in England:

> Fifty three Hindus and Sikhs, including Manta Singh, were cremated on a specially built funeral ghat on the gentle English hills of the South Downs, overlooking Brighton. Their ashes were scattered in the sea. To mark the site, a chattri was built. Chattri means umbrella in Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu. Chattris have been used as memorials to the dead for centuries in India. The Brighton Chattri is dedicated to Indian soldiers who died in the First World War. The Chattri bears the following inscription in Hindi and English: *To the memory of all the Indian soldiers who gave their lives for their King-Emperor in the Great War, this monument, erected on the site of the funeral pyre where the Hindus and Sikhs who died in hospital at Brighton, passed through the fire, is in grateful admiration and brotherly affection dedicated.*

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[16] http://www.cwgc.org/find-a-cemetery/cemetery/144000/NEUVE-CHAPELLE%20MEMORIAL (accessed January 27, 2015).

In September, 2010, a new screen wall, constructed by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission ("CWGC"), was unveiled. It bears the name of fifty three Indian soldiers, including Gurkhas, who died in Brighton hospital.[17]

Figure F. Chattri Photographs. Source: http://www.cwgc.org/foreverindia/memorials/commemoration-in-uk.php

If the answer to commemorating the fallen was as Winter suggests in Paragraph 2 "was an adapted modulated, secularized cross" you would expect such symbols as the Neuve-Chapell Memorial and the Chattri near Brighton.

12. Winter argues that "use of the cross in national commemorative practices had a universal and not

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[17] http://www.cwgc.org/foreverindia/memorials/ commemoration-in-uk.php (accessed January 27, 215).

a denominational meaning" (while admitting the religious nature of such crosses by stating that it meant "known but to God") for United States and France. (¶ 30). If such were the case, one must ask why the Cross was not made the universal commemorative symbol by American officials and by this reasoning **all** American war graves should have been marked with a Cross, even those of Jews. The answer is simple. The Cross was never the default marker for all graves as evidenced by the use of the Star of David on Jewish Graves. Moreover, as discussed in my earlier report, the Quartermaster General originally favored a flat slab memorial in place of the free-standing Cross. Winter ignores the significant objections made to the use of the Cross within the U.S. Army during World War I. As I discussed in my original report, Jewish Chaplains objected to making the Cross the uniform symbol for all chaplains (replacing the shepherd's crock as the symbol for chaplaincy). These protests led to differentiated symbols for Christian and Jewish chaplains.

13. Winter makes broad assumptions about war cemeteries and their secular nature in terms of the commemorative symbols they use, "throughout the world" (¶31). He finds it significant that British cemeteries placed on the "Stone or altar of Remembrance" words from the apocryphal book of Eccleaiasticus, "Their Name liveth evermore.'" Winter asserts the use of this quote serves to secularlize this altar of sacrifice and declaring "Notice that they [Britain] chose a citation not from the Christian Bible, but from one of the books excluded from the canon." Winter is correct that Jews and most Protestants do not recognize this te t as a canonical work, but the Roman Catholic Church and the Church of England

do place Ecclesiasticus in the Biblical canon. (Ecclesiasticus is also titled the Jesus the Son of Sirach).[18] Moreover, the *Book of Common Prayer* of the

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[18] HOLY Scripture containeth all things necessary to salvation: so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man, that it should be believed as an article of the Faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation. In the name of the holy Scripture we do understand those Canonical Books of the Old and New Testament, of whose authority was never any doubt in the Church.

Of the Names and Number of the Canonical Books
Genesis ....
Ecclesiastes or Preacher
Cantica, or Songs of Solomon
Four Prophets the greater
Twelve Prophets the less

And the other Books (as *Hierome* saith) the Church doth read for example of life and instruction of manners; but yet doth it not apply them to establish any doctrine; such are these following:

The Third Book of Esdras
The Fourth Book of Esdras
The Book of Tobias
The Book of Judith
The rest of the Book of Esther
The Book of Wisdom
Jesus the Son of Sirach
Baruch the Prophet
The Song of the Three Children
The Story of Susanna
Of Bel and the Dragon
The Prayer of Manasses
The First Book of Maccabees
The Second Book of Maccabees

ARTICLES
AGREED UPON BY THE ARCHBISHOPS AND BISHOPS OF BOTH PROVINCES AND THE WHOLE CLERGY IN THE

Church of England does call for reading from Ecclesiasticus during second evensong service for All Saints Day (November 1). British leaders, soldiers, and civilian attending services on this Holy Day would have likely heard the verse, "Their bodies are buried in peace; but their name liveth for evermore." (King James Bible, chapter 44, verse 14). The Church of England mandates that portions of the Book of Ecclesiasticus are read also at services for the following Holy Days: St Andrew, Saint Bartholomew, St. Luke, St. Simon and St. Jude, St. Mark, and St. John the Baptist.[19]

14. Winter argues for an ecumenical (¶32) reading of memorialization by the Imperial War Commission. This argument is perplexing because on the Website of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission in recounting the early history of the Imperial War Graves Commission notes how this body wanted a distinct Christian Character for the World War I British cemeteries:

CONVOCATION HOLDEN AT LONDON IN THE YEAR 1562 FOR THE AVOIDING OF DIVERSITIES OF OPINIONS AND FOR THE ESTABLISHING OF CONSENT TOUCHING TRUE RELIGION.

REPRINTED BY COMMAND OF HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES 1 WITH HIS ROYAL DECLARATION PREFIXED THEREUNTO.

Source: https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-worship/worship/book-of-common-prayer/articles-of-religion.aspx (accessed January 25, 2015).

[19] https://www.churchofengland.org/media/877829/3-revised-tables-of-lessons-2.pdf (accessed January 25, 2015).

Frederic Kenyon summed up his vision for the Commission cemeteries in February 1918 thus:

> *'the general appearance of a British cemetery will be that of an enclosure with plots of grass or flowers (or both) separated by paths of varying size, and set with orderly rows of headstones, uniform in height and width. Shrubs and trees will be arranged in various places, sometimes as clumps at the junctions of ways, sometimes as avenues along the sides of the principal paths, sometimes around the borders of the cemetery. The graves will, wherever possible, face towards the east, and at the eastern end of the cemetery will be a great altar stone, raised upon broad steps, and bearing some brief and appropriate phrase or text. Either over the stone, or elsewhere in the cemetery, will be a small building, where visitors may gather for shelter or for worship, and where the register of the graves will be kept. And at some prominent spot will rise the Cross, as the symbol of the Christian faith and of the self-sacrifice of the men who now lie beneath its shadow.*[20]

Winter's arguments about the ecumenical nature of British memorialization is perplexing when in fact the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland does have two established Churches: Church

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[20] Commonwealth War Graves Commission, http://www.cwgc.org/about-us/what-we-do/architecture/our-cemetery-design-and-features.aspx (accessed January 25, 2015).

of England and the Church of Scotland. The use of the Cross and altar of sacrifice is entirely consistent with a country that unites Church and State.

15. The Cross was not the default marker by the American Battle Monuments Commission asserted by Winter in paragraph 30. In fact, after World War I the American Battle Monuments Commission did not use the Cross as the default marker when a dead soldier's identity *could not* be established. Instead, the Commission used either a Cross or Star of David in "proportion of known Jewish dead to know Christians."[21] In my initial report, I described how the Jewish Welfare Board protested against the use of the Cross in the chapels built by the American Battle Monuments Commission in the overseas American cemeteries. From the perspective of Jewish Welfare Board, the Cross remained an inherently sectarian symbol. Winter does not challenge this assertion regarding the use of the Cross in American overseas military cemeteries. In France, the Cross was one of three options for soldiers to mark the graves of fallen soldiers of the First World War. Beside a Christian Cross, there existed the option of a plain headstone with no Christian symbolism and Muslim soldiers

[21] Piehler, *Remembering War the American Way*, p. 131. It is true that the Commission after World War II the American Battle Monuments Commission reversed this earlier policy and decided all unidentified graves would be marked with a Cross out of fear a Star of David would be placed over an Unknown Christian.

were often given a headstone with a curved, Moorish style top.[22]

16. Winter acknowledges that "there were many strategies adopted by veterans groups, community organizations to commemorate the dead." (¶24). He also asserts that "some groups adapted various forms of crosses to symbolize not a specific religious belief but precisely to remind people at home of the archipelago of crosses found in cemeteries all over the Western front." But there is no evidence that this was the predominant reason, or any reason for that matter, for erecting a Cross at Bladensburg. In his report, Winter cites only one other Memorial in the United States that uses the Cross, the Canadian Cross of Remembrance. (Winter, Figure 18). This Cross stands in an actual cemetery and was gift of the Dominion of Canada. Bladensburg's Cross remains exceptional, as the vast majority of communities in the United States when erecting memorials to the First World War avoided the Cross and other sectarian symbols. As noted in my first report, the first World War I Memorial erected in Prince George's County standing outside the county courthouse avoids religious symbols. As noted extensively in my original report, the most widely used World War I monument erected in most communities was the doughboy statue.

17. Winter discusses in paragraph 22 the popularity of "In Flanders Field" by the Canadian John McCrae. For the World War I generation this poem

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[22] Martin and Mary Middlebrook, *The Middlebrook Guide to Somme Battlefields* (South Yorkshire: Pen and Sword, 2007).

did have significant meaning and it is still widely published in anthologies of poetry. But is the emphasis of McCrae's widely read poem: the Crosses or the poppies that grew in Flanders Field? In the aftermath of World War I, the poppy emerged in the United States and many other countries as a major symbol of the First World War battlefield and the war dead. The educator Moina Belle Michael played a central role in promoting the poppy as a major symbol of remembrance that resonated with the public. Michael's inspiration for the poppy as symbol was based on reading McRae's poem, and one day she was so moved by it, "she immediately jotted down her own poetic response ... and pledged to 'always to wear a red poppy of Flanders Fields as a sign of remembrance and the emblem of keeping the faith with all who died'" In 1920, Michael successfully convinced the American Legion to make the Flanders Field Memorial Day poppy as its "national emblem of remembrance" and to sell them to general public. (The Legion did briefly flirt with making the remembrance flower the American daisy, but soon dropped the idea.) Other veteran organizations soon followed the lead of the Legion with the Veterans of Foreign Wars creating its own trademarked "Buddy Poppies." Initially, the poppy flowers were the norm, but before the 1920s ended, the American Legion and other veterans organizations increasingly sold artificial poppies in order to provide employment to disabled veterans. The poppy as symbol of remembrance of the war dead resonated with the wider public. For instance, the American Legion during its Memorial Day drive of 1924 sold four million poppies. If the Cross is the dominant symbol of memory of the World War I war dead, why did not the American

Legion and other veteran's group not sell miniature crosses?[23] On a personal note, as a child I vividly remember veterans selling poppies during Memorial Day and Veteran's Day in the 1960s and 1970s. More recently, I personally purchased a poppy sold to me by a World War II veteran at a diner in Hyde Park, New York, on Veteran's Day 2014 during lunch break while conducting research at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library.

18. Winter's discussion of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier notes the absence of "denominational belief" on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier (¶40). He fails to note that one of the designs for a final memorial called for the inclusion of the symbol of the Cross. The Jewish Welfare Board successfully convinced the Commission of Fine Arts to drop this symbol reminding the Commissioners that a Jew could be buried at the Tomb since his identity was Unknown.[24]

III. CONCLUSION

Winter seeks to recast the Bladensburg Cross into a non-sectarian, non-denominational symbol devoid of any religious specificity. Those who built the Bladensburg Cross selected a symbol that at the time was viewed as sectarian, particularly by the Jewish Welfare Board and many rabbis serving as Army chaplains. The dedication ceremonies for the Bladensburg Cross emphasized its sectarian charac-

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[23] John Kinder, Paying With Their Bodies: American War and the Problem of the Disable Veteran (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2015), pp. 201-204.

[24] G. Kurt Piehler, *Remembering War the American Way*, 121

ter and Christian character. Sunday Church services have been held at the site. The Bladensburg Cross is also distinctive, as most American communities in the aftermath of World War I did ***not*** include the cross and other sectarian symbols in the war memorials they built. It is also clear the Imperial War Commission sought to build sectarian war memorials to memorialize the fallen who fought for the British Empires. It is impossible to see either the Cross of Sacrifice or the Altar of Remembrance as anything other than Christian symbols. By the same token, the Commission did build sectarian monuments to those of other religious faiths, including Muslims and Hindus who served with the Indian Army.

Report by

G. Kurt Piehler

Date: 30 January 2015

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PORT O'BLADENSBURG

A BRIEF HISTORY OF A 1742 TOWN

By

SISTER CATHERINE WRIGHT

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COPYRIGHT, 1977, by Sister Catherine Wright
Project of the Town of Bladensburg
Bicentennial Committee

THE MEMORIAL CROSS

The Synder – Farmer Post of the American Legion of Hyattsville erected a 40 foot cross of cement and marble to recall the 49 men of the County who died in World War I. Located at the intersection of Route One and Annapolis Road, the cross was dedicated on July 13, 1925 by the American Legion. Representative Stephen Gambril of the Fifth Maryland District gave the keynote address.

A bronze tablet at the base of the monument contains the unforgettable words of Woodrow Wilson:

> The right is more precious than the peace; we shall fight for the things we have always carried nearest our hearts; to such a task we dedicate ourselves.

At the base of the monument are the words, "Valor" "Endurance," "Courage," "Devotion." At its heart, the Cross bears a great gold star.

John D. Early, sculptor and architect constructed the monument for $10,000 on the very spot where Casey's Blacksmith shop used to stand.[2]

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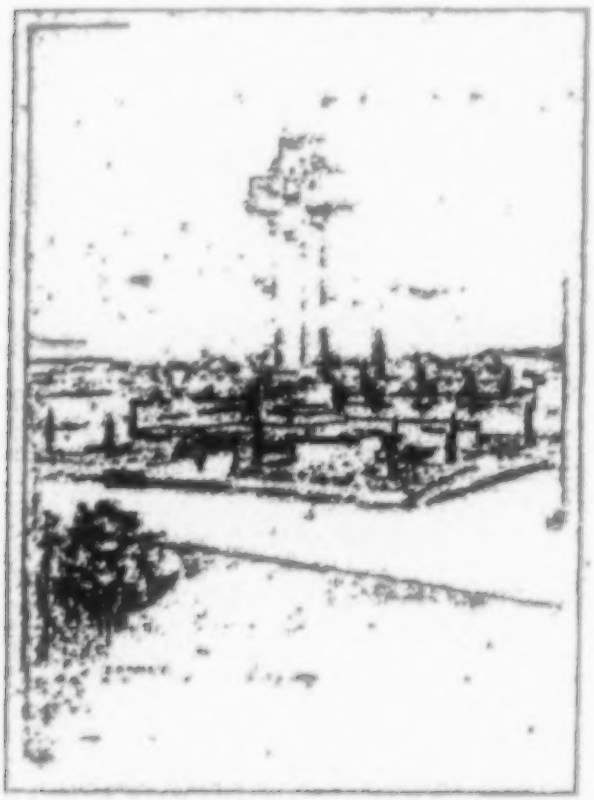
MEMORIAL CROSS

To The

Heroes of Prince George's County, Maryland

Who Lost Their Lives in the World War, and the

Dedication of the National Defense Highway



To Be Erected at Bladensburg, Md.,

Under the Auspices of

THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

WHEN streams of molten lava flowed down the mountainside from the crater of Vesuvius upon Pompeii, they ruthlessly carried before them structures of civilization painstakingly erected through many years' weary toil by the peace-loving populace, living defenseless at its base; but in these ruins there still remain standing. the concrete slabs which formed the wall of what was then known as their theatre—a building that was used for instruction In the arts, sciences and moralities of the day. In like manner, when the German hordes swept out upon their fellowmen, they eventually encountered the solid concrete determination of the world to preserve forever its institutions of enlightenment and justice.

In commemoration of their sons who thus died for the cause of democracy, the people of Prince George's County, Maryland, are erecting a great cross of snow white cement that future generations may look upon it and remember the fifty-four boys who went from this county to help stop this stream of destruction, and who now sleep in France. This Memorial Cross will stand in a strategic position at the point where the Washington - Baltimore Boulevard joins the Defense Highway leading from Washington to Annapolis. Here, those who come to the Nation's Capital to view the wonders of its architecture and the sacred places where their laws are made and administered may, before this Cross, rededicated themselves to the principles of their fathers and renew the fires of patriotism and loyalty to the nation which prompted these young men to rally to the defense of the right. And here the friends and loved ones of those who were in the great conflict will pass daily over a highway memorializing their boys who made the Supreme sacrifice.

GEORGE R. FARMER. U. S. A.,

First enlisted man from Prince George's County to be killed in the Army.

The Memorial Cross and Defense Highway were dedicated on September 28. The Hon. Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, spoke in eulogy of the achievements of these men and lauded the noble purpose of their people in consecrating these works to their memory: "A concrete highway," as Mr. Dan-

iels said, "that will be a boon to the traveler from far and near, that will never fail in rain or sun, that every day in the year will present an unalterable face to every duty expected of it, as did the men in whose honor it was named; and a cross that will stand for time and eternity, like the principles they defended."

The Cross will be built by the voluntary contributions of the men and women who so keenly appreciate its meaning. Credit for the organization and direction of effort is due the Prince George's County Memorial Committee, of which Mr. John R. Riggles is chairman, and Mrs. J. H. Norman, treasurer. To their originality, initiative and industry is also due the fact that, of all the memorials and improvements talked of and contemplated in honor of our soldier dead, this Cross and Highway are the first to be in reality under way.

Sunday, September 28, was fair as Thomas Paine's rarest "day in June," and not a single misfortune marred the plans for this loving ceremony. Secretary Daniels, with stirring words and phrases, depleted the sentiments of the assemblage. Mrs. William Farmer, whose son was the first soldier from the county to fall in battle, turned the first shovelful of earth for the foundation of the Cross. After a beautiful rendition of "Rock of Ages" by the cornetist of the Marine Band, amid welling tears of the sympathetic audience Mrs. Martin Redman, mother of the first Navy man lost to Prince George's County, dedicated the Defense Highway. The band then recalled the song that had lightened the burdens of the men over there and played "The Long- Long Trail."

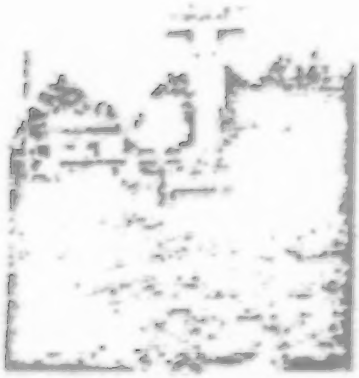
WILLIAM F. REDMAN, U. S. N.

First enlisted man from Prince George's County to be killed in the Navy.

Mrs. John Fainter, mother of Captain Fainter, Company F, One Hundred and Fifteenth Infantry, a Prince George's unit, led a chorus of children in singing "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," and after the National Anthem was sung heartily by all present the services closed and the multitude was dismissed.

The Cross, when finished, will be forty feet high and have arms sixteen feet in length. It will bear at its heart a great gold star, while to its base will he affixed a bronze tablet bearing the names of those in whose honor it is built. It will be constructed by Fred Drew, Louis de Franceski, sculptor, plans drawn by Marshall J. Smith, all of Washington. The Defense Highway is twenty-six miles long and will be built under contracts let by the State of Maryland to connect the cities of Washington and Annapolis.

MEMORIAL CROSS AT BLADENSBURG



This is the Cross as it now stands in its unfinished condition, when the Synder-Farmer Post took it over to finish the job.

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MARYLAND NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY

The Memorial Cross Drive was launched here

Exhibit 2

THE WASHINGTON POST (1923-1954); JUL 25, 1931;
PROQUEST HISTORICAL NEWSPAPERS:
THE WASHINGTON POST (1877-1995)
pg. 4

Head of Church Army Will Be Preacher Here

The special preacher at the Peace Cross services for the first three Sundays in August will be Capt. Frank B. Mountford, head of the Church Army in the United States and one of the outstanding lay evangelists in this country.

Capt. Mountford has several times assisted in conducting conferences on evangelism at the College of Preachers of Washington Cathedral and also has served as leader of special missions in this city. He has had experience both in England and America in wayside evangelism and in stimulating the congregations to join heartily in the hymns and other portions of the service.

Chevy Chase Announces Preachers' for August

During August the Rev. Edward O. Clark, pastor of Chevy Chase Baptist Church will be away on his vacation, a portion of which will be spent attending the general conference at Northfield, Mass. During his absence the pulpit will be supplied by the following ministers: August 2, the Rev. B. M. Osgood, of Rockville, Md.; August 9, the Rev, F. F. Leonard, Baltimore, Md.; August 16, the Rev. Oliver C. Horsman, Erie, Pa.; August 23 and 30, the Rev. C. Marshall Muir, Van Wert, Ohio.

Boys Training School Will Hear Capt. Stacy

The religious work department of the Y.M.C.A. will have charge of the meeting at the National Training School for Boys, on Bladensburg road, tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Capt. J. K. Stacy, who has been in the Indian field for twenty years, will speak to the boys on "The Influence of the Gospel Among the Indians." R. L. Gilby. of the Y.M.C.A., will lead the singing. Louis B. Nichols, associate religious work director, will preside.

'Scared Preacher' Theme At Georgetown Church

The Rev. Harold E. Beatty. minister of historic old Georgetown Lutheran Church, has a unique theme for his night sermon tomorrow. He has entitled it "A Scared Preacher.' This is a Bible character, of course, for Mr. Beatty goes to the Bible for all his themes. But whether it was a prophet or one of the apostles will not be told until the preacher gives out his text.

Church of the Brethren Board to Meet Here

The religious education board of the Church of the Brethren for the District will hold a two-day meeting at the Washington City Church of the Brethren Monday and Tuesday. On the first evening the program will be devoted to the work of the young

people, and on Tuesday a general program will be carried out.

The Rev. Minor Miller, director of the religious education of this denomination in Virginia, will be one of the chief speakers.

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INDEPENDENCE DAY CEREMONY

****

SALUTE TO AMERICA

PRESENTED BY THE BLADENSBURG
PROMOTION COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 11:00 A.M., JULY 4, 1985

****

WORLD WAR I MEMORIAL CROSS

WORLD WAR II SCROLL

AND

KOREAN - VIETNAM MONUMENT

VALOUR - COURAGE -
ENDURANCE - DEVOTION

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INDEPENDENCE DAY CEREMONY

****

SALUTE TO AMERICA

PRESENTED BY THE BLADENSBURG PROMOTION COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, 11:00 A.M., JULY 4, 1985

****

World War I Memorial Cross

World War II Scroll

and

Korean - Vietnam Monument

VALOUR - COURAGE -
ENDURANCE - DEVOTION

MEMORIAL CROSS

The Bladensburg Memorial Cross, dedicated on July 12, 1935, commemorates the VALOR, COURAGE, ENDURANCE, and DEVOTION of the forty-nine men from Prince George's County who sacrificed their lives in World War I.

WORLD WAR II SCROLL

The seventeen foot imposing Memorial Scroll in loving memory of all those who served in our armed forces during World War II, (1941 – 1945) was installed and dedicated on June 1, 1944 by the American Legion of Prince George's County, Maryland.

KOREAN – VIETNAM MONUMENT

This polished, inscribed Georgia granite Memorial Marker is dedicated and placed in grateful remembrance and tribute to all those from Prince George's County who served our nation in the Korean and Vietnam conflicts.

DUTY - HONOR - COUNTRY

PLACEMENT OF FLORAL TRIBUTES

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY	Parris N. Glendening County Executive
TOWN OF BLADENSBURG	Mayor William R. Seymour
BLADENSBURG PROMOTION COMMITTEE	Danial L. Long Chairman
GENERAL DOUGLAS MAC ARTHUR POST 983, V.F.W. of U.S. and LADIES AUXILIARY	Francis J. Salveron, Commander Margaret Weber, President Ladies Auxiliary
FREE STATE POST 8950 V.F.W. of U.S.	Richard Ager, Commander James Wilson, Senior Vice Commander
IRISH WAR VETERANS, U.S.A.	William A. Hickey, Jr. Past National Commander Ruth V. Hickey Past President, Ladies Auxiliary, District of Columbia
AMERICAN LEGION POST 108 CHEVERLY, MARYLAND	James M. Crawford, Commander

AMERICAN LEGION POST 110 MOUNT RAINIER, MARYLAND	Donald Monroe, Commander
AMERICAN LEGION POST 131 COLMAR MANOR, MARYLAND	Franklin Stultz, Commander
AMERICAN LEGION POST 136 GREENBELT, MARYLAND	Joseph Miller, Commander Samuel Hofberg, Past Commander

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

OFFICIAL WREATH BEARER	Charles P. Dondero Chief Warrant Officer U.S. Coast Guard (Ret.)

PROGRAM OF EVENTS

July 4, 1984

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS Sandra Watkins, Commanding Michael Deacon, Field Captain	American Legion Post 108 Honor Guard, Cheverly Troopers Maryland State Champions
INVOCATION	Father Karl A. Chimiak St. Matthias Catholic Church Lanham, Maryland
CALL TO ORDER	William A. Hickey, Jr. Bladensburg Promotion Committee
RECOGNITION OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS	Councilwoman Marion Hoffman Town of Bladensburg
WELCOME	Mayor William R. Seymour
GREETINGS	Danial L. Long, Chairman Bladensburg Promotion Committee Parris N. Glendening Prince George's County Executive
INDEPENDENCE DAY ADDRESS	Steny Hoyer, Congressman

	5th Congressional District
DEDICATION OF FLAG POLE	Danial Long (and) Bladensburg Promotion Committee

The Bladensburg Promotion Committee dedicates this Flagpole to William A. Hickey, Jr. and Francis J. Salveron.

The perserverance, dedication and patriotism of these men provided the inspiration for the establishment of the Korean-Vietnam Memorial.

The Flag used for this ceremony has flown over the United States Capitol. It was presented to the Bladensburg Promotion Committee by Congressman Steny Hoyer.

PLACEMENT OF FLORAL TRIBUTES

BENEDICTION	Father Karl A. Chimiak St. Matthias Catholic Church Lanham, Maryland
RETIREMENT OF THE COLORS	American Legion Post 108 Honor Guard, Cheverly Troopers

BLADENSBURG PROMOTION COMMITTEE

Marion M. Hoffman	Bladensburg Council-woman
Town Council Liaison	
Danial L. Long	General Chairman
David H. Soule	Vice Chairman and Treasurer
Sheila Rice	Assistant Treasurer
Maribeth Soule	Secretary

MEMBERS

Susanna Cristofane	Anna Salveron
William A. Hickey, Jr.	Francis Salveron
Lillian Hinebaugh	Sally Long
Lucy Seymour	Peggy Raynor Hutchins
Dorothy Branock	Janet Hammons

* * * * * * * * * * * * * *

July 4th

Luncheon Served

Bladensburg Fire Hall

(buffet, coffee, tea or soda)

$5.00 - Advance Reservation

Cake Donated by Rolling Pin Bakery

Cash Bar (Beer & Wine)

* *

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". . . THIS GREAT ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL OUGHT TO BE COMMEMORATED AS THE DAY OF DELIVERANCE, BY SOLEMN ACTS OF DEVOTION TO GOD ALMIGHTY. . ."

John Adams 1776

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL
PARK & PLANNING COMMISSION
OCTOBER 18, 1985

NEWS RELEASE AND OUTLINE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE THORUGH
NOVEMBER 11, 1985

RE-DEDICAION OF PEACE CROSS MEMORIAL SCHEDULED

The Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission A bi-county Commission Serving Montgomery and Prince George's Counties Prince George's County Planning Board Department of Parks and Recreation 6600 Kenilworth Avenue Riverdale, Maryland 20737 Steve Davis Public Affairs Officer (Office) 699-2407 (Home) 301-987-8267 October 18, 1987 Contact: 699-2407 News Release and cutline For Immediate Release through November 11, 1985 The newly renovated Peace Cross Memorial located at the intersection of Route 450 and Route 1 in Bladensburg will be rededicated in commemorative ceremonies on Veterans Day, Monday, November 11, 1985 at 10:00 a.m.

The Memorial shown here, was originally constructed in 1925 by a group of Prince Georgians who wished to erect a Memorial in memory of those men who lost their lives in World War I in the service of their country.

The Peace Cross Memorial underwent restoration due to deterioration from weather elements. The approximate cost for repairs was $100,000 which was

funded as part of the FY '85-'86 budget of the Maryland-National Capital park and Planning Commission.

For information call 699-2407.

This event is sponsored by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County in cooperation with the Prince George's County Executive's Office, the Peace Cross Memorial Restoration Committee and the Town of Blandensburg.

M-N-C-P-P-C

R-2-85-26-P

Phone interview with
Mrs. Hugh T. McClay, Sr. (Gertrude)

Mrs. McClay seems to be a very active and alert person she worked with her husband on the building of Peace Cross for many years until he was not able to work any more then the project was turned over to the Park and Planning. Mrs. McClay was voted outstanding Senior Citizens of the Year 1983 by the Jaycees.

Mrs. McClay worked 39 years at the Veterans Hospital in Washington, D.C. she has over 14000 hour volunteer work there.

She is in the sec. for the Mt. Rainier Senior Citizens Club She is a member of the Fellowship Club in Mt. Rainier She is a member of the 1st Meth. Church in Hyattsville. She has also received a commendation from the church and many of the organizations.

SHE WILL CALL ME ON NOVEMBER 8, 1985 TO LET ME KNOW IF SHE HAS A RIDE TO THE REDEDICATION ON NOVEMBER 11, 1985, IF SHE DOESN'T HAVE A RIDE I TOLD HER SOMEONE WOULD PICK HER UP.

Submitted by

/s/ Sharen

Sharen Collins

October 25, 1985

Steve,

Attached is background information on Susanne Cristofane and Mrs. Hugh T. McClay.

I spoke with Mrs. Cristofane some about the Peace Cross, but she didn't give me anything to go on. She informed me that I should speak with Mr. Francis

Geary for the back ground info. Sorry I couldn't get anything from her, hope that the information I obtained is enough.

Sharen Collins

/s/ Sharen

Town of Bladensburg

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK
AND PLANNING COMMISSION
6600 Kenilworth Avenue
Riverdale, Maryland 20737-0486

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATOIN,
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

November 19, 1985

Chaplain Major Raymond Brenza
Senior Catholic Chaplain
1776 ABW/HC
Andrews AFB, Maryland 20332-5000

Dear Chaplain Brenza:

On behalf of the Prince George's County Planning Board of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for arranging and providing the presence of Chaplain Captain Father Karl Chimiak, U.S.A.F.R., at our Veteran's Day Ceremonies.

As a part of the ceremonies the historic Peace Cross Memorial was re-dedicated in honor and memory of all veterans. The ceremonies attracted over 400 veterans and interested citizens and was well received by all who participated.

We wish to thank Chaplain Captain Father Karl Chimiak for his contributions to our program and trust that we may assimilate this relationship again.

Sincerely,

Craig Kellstrom
Public Affairs Specialist

CK:vm

Chimiak3

cc: Chaplain Captain Father Karl Chimiak, U.S.A.F.R.

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK
AND PLANNING COMMISSION

6600 Kenilworth Avenue
Riverdale, Maryland 20737-0486

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATOIN,
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

November 15, 1985

U.S.A.F. Color Guard/C.C.
Bolling Air Force Base
Washington, D.C. 2032-5000
Attention: Major Uffort

Dear Major Uffort:

On behalf of the Prince George's County Planning Board of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, I wish to take this opportunity to thank you and the drill demonstration unit, under the leadership of Lt. Mark Hobson, for their tremendous performance at the Veteran's Day ceremony held at the Peace Cross Memorial site in Bladensburg, Maryland.

Even though we departed from our printed program for a brief period, Lt. Hobson and the unit waited patiently until their performance which was greatly appreciated by the 400-plus people in attendance at the ceremony. The presence of this sharp unit greatly added to the program.

I have enclosed a copy of the program, a newspaper article and photograph of the unit.

Should you ever need assistance of any kind from us, please feel free to call.

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Sincerely,

/s/ Craig Kellstrom

Craig Kellstrom
Public Affairs Specialist

CK/db
Enclosures

REDEDICATION OF PEACE CROSS MEMORIAL

Bladensburg, Maryland

Monday, November 11, 1985

10:00 A.M.

VETERANS DAY

P R O G R A M

Presentation of the Colors and Pledge of Allegiance Sandra Watkins, Administrative Captain Commanding Michael Deacon, Field Captain	Cheverly Troopers American Legion Post #108 Honor Guard, Maryland State Champions Ask audience to rise
National Anthem	Larry Lyons, Councilman, Town of Bladensburg Please join us in singing theNational Anthem as sung by Larry Lyons
Invocation	Father Karl A. Chimiak St. Matthias Catholic Church
Welcoming Remarks and Recognition of Distinguished Guests	John Rhoads, Chairman Prince George's County Planning Board Mention to audience that the booklet entitled The War Memorials of Bladensburg contains historical background on Peace Cross and other local memorial sites.

Distinguished Guests -- Remarks	Hon. Parris N. Glandening Prince George's County Executive
	Hon. William Seymour, Mayor Town of Bladensburg
	Marion Hoffman, Councilwoman Town of Bladensburg and Chairman of Peace Cross Memorial Restoration Committee
	Francis Geary, Commander Snyder/Farmer/Butler American Legion Post #3
	Bill Hickey, American Legion Liaison Additional speakers added subsequent to printing the program are: John Cavianno. Post 217 Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient Bill Dozier. Commander Prince George's American Legion
Special Presentation	John Rhoads Present flowers and M-NCPPC resolutions to Susanna Christofane and Mrs Gertrude McClay.
Drill Demonstration	U.S.A.F. Honor Guard - Bolling A.F.B. N.C.O.I.C.

	TSgt. Griffey Led by Non-Commissioned Officer In Charge Tech Sergeant Griffey During this performance Giendenina and Seymour are to so to wreath area to prepare for wreath laying ceremony.
Placement of Floral Tributes	See attached list Refer to wreath laying ceremony listing. Advise audience to remain seated for laying of floral tributes. In honor of Veterans nay. American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131 and Veterans of Foreign Wars General Douglas MacArthur Post 983 will be placing wreaths simultaneously at the base of the World War II Honor Roll And the Korean/Vietnam Veterans Memorial at the time of thejr respective presentations.
Benediction	Father Karl A. Chimiak Ladies and Gentleman, please rise for the benediction. Father Chimiak to ask for moment of silence.

Taps	Mike Kelly Ladies and Gentlemen, please remain standing for Taps as played by Mike Kelly (Gun salute of occur at same time and the retirement of colors.)
Retirement of Colors	American Legion Post #108
Refreshments	Town of Bladensburg Invite audience to join in refreshments.
ADMISSION FREE	FREE REFRESHMENTS

HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-1991

February 5, 1985

Mr. Richard C. Stevenson
Associate Director
Parks and Recreation
M-NCPPC
6600 Kenilworth Avenue
Riverdale, MD 20840

Dear Mr. Stevenson:

Enclosed please find background information regarding the Peace Cross Memorial, erected under the auspices of the Snyder Farmer Butler American Legion Post #3, Bladensburg.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ David P. Bird

David P. Bird

DP8/blh
Enclosure

Maurice B. Snyder

Killed in Action

October 8, 1918

Meuse-Argonne Offensive

George W. Farmer

Killed in Action

October 8, 1918

Meuse-Argonne Offensive

2d Lt. Harry M. Butler

Killed in Action

July 16, 1944

Normandy, France

PREAMBLE

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY, WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES; TO UPHOLD AND DEFEND THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER; TO FOSTER AND PERPETUATE A ONE HUNDRED PERCENT AMERICANISM; TO PRESERVE THE MEMORIES AND INCIDENTS OF OUR ASSOCIATION IN THE GREAT WARS; TO INCULCATE A SENSE OF INDIVIDUAL OBLIGATION TO THE COMMUNITY, STATE AND NATION; TO COMBAT THE AUTOCRACY OF 80TH THE CLASSES AND THE MASSES; TO MAKE RIGHT THE MASTER OF MIGHT; TO PROMOTE PEACE AND GOOD WILL ON EARTH: TO SAFEGUARD AND TRANSMIT TO POSTERITY

THE PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE, FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY; TO CONSECRATE AND SANCTIFY OUR COMRADESHIP BY OUR DEVOTION TO MUTUAL HELPFULNESS.

PAST POST COMMANDERS

Percival K. Parlett, Jr. 1919
Kenneth F. Brooks 1920
John N. Brooks 1921
Caesar L Aiello 1922
Alan H. Pottinger 1923
Waldo Burnside 1924
John H. Hiser 1925
J. Moses Edlavitch 1926
Orion R. Butler 1927
John A. Johnson 1928
Robert W. McCullough 1929
Carl W. Walz1 1930
Robert G. MacCartee 1931
William T. Luman 1932
Earl J. Cannon 1933
Tyler M. Birch (part year) 1934
Ralph J. Sheffer (part your) 1934
Sidney W. Wentworth 1935
John J. Buckley 1936
Charles V. Joyce 1937
Hugh T. McClay 1938
Samuel H. Harvey 1939
Fred J. Rehm 1940
John F. Neltzey 1941
Jacob S. Walker 1942
Russell H. Habermehl 1943
Maurice P. McGrath 1944
Clyde D. McCurdy 1945
James E. York 1946

H. Winship Wheatley, Jr. 1947
Andrew C. Tackitt..... 1948
W. Stanley Machen 1949
Arthur B. Calhoun, Jr..... 1950
F. Ira Wheatley 1951
Robert G. Fuerst 1952
Hervey G. Machen 1953
Ralph Day..... 1954
Norman B. Belt 1955
Robert W, Fey..... 1956
Leland C. Worthington 1957
Clinton L. Herbert 1958
James R. Moore..... 1959
Thomas W. Hayes 1960
Harry B. Cogar..... 1961
Augustus R. Masincupp..... 1962
Robert F. Hurley 1963
Arthur G. Whalley ..... .1964
Edward T. Noon 1965
Edward C. Jones 1966
Edward C. Jones 1967
Marry S. Hussey 1968
Harry S. Hussey..... 1969
Francis X. Geary 1970
Francis X. Geary 1971
Francis X. Geary 1972
Francis X. Geary 1973

Reprint of handouts passed out to citizens.

When streams of molten lava flowed down the mountainside from the crater of Vesuvius upon Pompeii, they ruthlessly carried before them structures of civilization painstakingly erected through many years' weary toil by the peace-loving populace, living defenseless at its base; but in these ruins there still remain standing the concrete slabs which formed the wall of what was then known as their theatre—a building that was used for instruction in the arts, sciences and moralities of the day. In like manner, when the German hordes swept out upon their fellowmen, they eventually encountered the sad concrete determination of the world to preserve forever its institutions of enlightenment arid justice.

In commemoration of their sons who thus died for the cause of democracy, the people of Prince George's County, Maryland, arc erecting a great cross of snow-white cement that future generations may look upon it and remember the fifty-four boys who went from this county to help stop this stream of destruction, and who now sleep in France. This Memorial Cross will stand in a strategic position at the paint where the Washington-Baltimore Boulevard joins the Defense Highway leading from Washington to Annapolis. Here, those who come to the Nation's Capital to view the wonders of its architecture and the sacred places where their laws are made and administered may, before this Cross, rededicate themselves to the principles of their fathers and renew the fires of patriotism and loyalty to the nation which prompted these young men to rally to the defense of the right. And here the friends and loved ones of those who were in the great conflict will pass daily

over a highway memorializing their boys who made the supreme sacrifice.

The Memorial Cross and Defense Highway were dedicated on September 28. The Hon. Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, spoke in eulogy of the achievements of these men and lauded the noble purpose of their people in consecrating these works to their memory: "A concrete highway," as Mr. Daniels said, "that will be a boon to the traveler from far and near, that will never fail in rain or sun, that every day in the year will present an unalterable face to every duty expected of it, as did the men in whose honor it was named; and a cross that will stand for time and eternity, like the principles they defended."

The Cross will be built by the voluntary contributions of the men and women who so keenly appreciate its meaning. Credit for the organization and direction of effort is due to Prince George's County Memorial Committee of which Mr. John R. Riggles is chair-man, and Mrs. J. H. Norman, treasurer. To their originality, initiative and industry is also due the fact that, of all the memorials and improvements talked of and contemplated in honor of our soldier dead, this Cross and Highway are the first to be in reality under way.

Sunday, September 28 was fair as Thomas Paine's rarest "day in June," and not a single misfortune marred the plans for this loving ceremony. Secretary Daniels, with stirring words and phrases, depicted the sentiments of the assemblage. Mrs. William Farmer, whose son was the first soldier from the county to fall in battle, turned the first shovelful of earth for the foundation of the Cross. After a beautiful rendition of "rock of Ages" by the cornetist of the

Marine Band, amid welling tears of the sympathetic audience Mrs. Martin Redman, mother of the first Navy man lost to Prince George's County, dedicated the Defense Highway. The band then recalled the song that had lightened the burden of the men over there and played "The Long-Long Trail."

Mrs. John Fainter, mother of Captain Fainter, Company F, One Hundred and Fifteenth Infantry, a Prince George's unit, lead a chorus of children in singing "My Country 'Tis of Thee," and after the National Anthem was sung heartily by all present the services closed and the multitude was dismissed.

The Cross, when finished, will be forty feet high and have arms sixteen feet in length. It will bear at its heart a great gold star, while to its base will be affixed a bronze tablet bearing the names of those in whose honor it is built. It will be constructed by Fred Drew, Louis de Franceski, sculptor, plans drawn by Marshall J. Smith, all of Washington. The Defense Highway is twenty-six miles long and will be built under contracts let by the State of Maryland to connect the cities of Washington and Annapolis.

A picture of ***Casey's Blacksmith shop*** *where the Memorial will stand is shown here.*

The fund drive for the Memorial Cross that was started early in 1919 by Mr. John Riggles of Lanham and Mrs. J. H. Norman of Hyattsville had raised enough money for the work to start on the Memorial Cross. Contributions from solicitations ranged from 50¢ to $100 a person. The Washington newspapers (The *Washington Star*, *The Times*, and *The Washington Post*) along with Woodward and Lothrop, S. Kann and Sons, and Lansburg Bros. Department Stores each contributed $100.

In less than a year of collections which included lawn fetes by A. Gasch and Mr. Raymond, a dance given by Mr. J. Allsop, ice crema sales and sales on the excursion to Chesapeake Beach, the drive netted $1,523.16, and on November 19, 1930, the last of this money was spent on the cross.

The Post, realizing that the drive was beginning to wind down, started its own drive for the Memorial Cross. The John B. Rogers Producing Company was contacted and helped the Post with assistance from local high school girls to produce a great show. "Hoop-La" was presented on December 8 and 9, 1931, in the Armory. The presentation netted $250 for the Memorial Cross Fund.

Snyder-Farmer Post agreed to take over, with the unanimous consent of Prince George's County Memorial Committee, to complete the Memorial Cross. Articles were signed between the Committee and the Post transferring the Cross, its liabilities and assets to the Post. An agreement between the Town Commissioners of Bladensburg and the Post deeds the property on which the cross stands from the Town to the Post.

This Memorial Cross was to be a Monument to the fifty-four men of Prince George's County who made the supreme sacrifice in the Great War.

On April 18, 1922, a combined drive was made with Company "F" and the Post. Medals and cups were awarded the Company, athletic events were held, and the evening program consisted of a banquet served by the unit of Post 3 followed by entertainment.

Mr. T. Howard Duckett of Bladensburg, an ardent supporter of this memorial, made an appeal for the Post in its fund drive and was instrumental in getting work done on this project. Captain John Brooks was made chairman of the Memorial Committee and reported that $5,000 would be needed to complete the Cross.

In April 1922, the Post agreed to rent the Odd Fellow's Hall. Comrade Edlavitch donated $50 to furnish the hall, located at Wells and Maryland Avenue (Decatur Street and Baltimore Avenue).

The Memorial Day Services under the chairmanship of Waldo Burnside started at 7:00 a.m. on May 30, 1922. Members of the Post carried flowers and wreaths that were donated by citizens to Arlington where they decorated the grave of the fallen heroes. Flowers were, and still are, placed at the Memorial Cross in Bladensburg and the Fountain at Upper Marlboro.

The community parade started at 9:45 a.m. with the following participants: the Mayor and Town Council, the National Training School Band, the Civil and Spanish-American War Veterans, Snyder-Farmer Post members, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Prince George's Post No. 899, Company "F," the

Volunteer Fire Department, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, the Women's Legion, the public schools of Hyattsville and other organizations.

The parade proceeded down Maryland Avenue to Johnson Avenue, up Johnson to Wine Avenue, then down Ralston to Zantzinger apark for Memorial Services.

The State Convention at Ocean City on August 25-27, 1922, had a good representation consisting of Comrades Edlavitch, McClay, Sasscer, Hunter, Hiser, Parlett, Pottinger, Brooks, and Alello from Post No. 3.

The Post took an active part in the election of the Commander. Comrade Renauf of Baltimore won the election on the seventh ballot. J. Moses Edlavitch was nominated and elected First Vice Commander. His record as an executive committeeman and as Finance officer of Post No. 3 was outstanding. He was elected as one of the delegates to go to the National Convention in New Orleans.

J. Moses Edlavitch was sort of a quiet man and avery devoted worker for the Legion. If he was appointed to do a job, he would see it fulfilled. He is reported to have attended a scheduled meeting in the Richmond Armory in Baltimore from Hyattsville as a member of the Department of Maryland, Executive Committee, in February 1922 when the snow was piled waist high.

The fund-raising campaign was meeting with little success. The members decided to have small pins made embossed with a replica of The Memorial Cross and distributed to donors. The project met with some success.

THE HYATTSVILLE INDEPENDENT
April 6, 1923

"ALL ABOARD" A SUCCESS

LOCAL TALENT PRESENTS MUSICAL COMEDY FOR LEGION POST.

The musical comedy, "All Aboard" under the auspices of Snyder-Farmer Post, No. 3, American Legion of Hyattsville, presented in the national Thursday and Friday evening of this week, was well rendered and a sueguard armory here Wednesday, cess financially.

Principals in the cast were Louis N. Spangler, Joe Waters, Mrs. George Montgomery, Lucille Ervin, Mary Allella, William H. Anglin, Caroline Fainter W. Larry Murphhy, Powell Waters and Eddie Beciter.

Others participating: Sailor girls, Helen Hiser, Alice Mandler, Araxi Casbarian, Edith Reeves, Thelma Anglin, Mary McClay, Dorothy Clarke, Barbara Danger, Sailor Men, George A. Williams, Edward M. Bar, Russell Wightington , Raymond Saltman, Yachting Girls, Catherine Crawley, Eleanor Dutton, Hannah Little, Lena Graham, Yachting Boys, Raymand Salzman, George A. Williams,, Edward M. Barron, Russell Wightington, Overall Girls, Winifred Wilson, dna Neidecker, Alice Thornley, Thelma Angin, Edith Roscea, Dorothy Clarke, Mary McClay, Eliza Beth Dugan, Margaret Painter, Eleanor Dutbin, Catherine Crawley, Evelyn Thornley, Bashful Bumble Bees Alice MacGregor, Marjorie

Sikken, Margaret Robertson, Ruby Gresnahan, Ellen Matsudairi, Carolyn Hiser, Margaret Wilson, Marion Ervin, Fishing Girls, Grace Keegin, Aileen Williams, Mabel Snyder, Marian Snyder, Elsie Sonnenberg, Mary Walsh, Helen Crawley, Dorothy Hutchinson; Antidotes, MaryCrawley, S. L. Crosthwaite, Edna Reeley, Harold McClay, Alicia Darnall, Hraold Cranford, Charlotte Davis, William A. Melster; Sweethearts, Mary Cross, Genevieve Gray, Sadie Hadley, Catherine Saylor, Evelyn Degges, Evelyn Noack, Margaret Fainter, Roberta Webb, Lucy Mae Hammett, Alice Feshman, Bertha Weirich, May Jarbae, Margaret Walsh, Helen West, Lucy Dearstyne; Tourists, Helen Weist, Mary Crawley, Samuel L. Crestwaite, Marian Snyder, Wenonah Platz, Harold R. McClay, Edna Reeley, Grace Keegin, Dorothy Hutchinson, Alicia Darnall, Mary Walsh, Harold Cranford, Aileen Williams, Charlotte Davis, Mabel Snyder, Elsie Sonnenberg, Hleen Crawley, William A. Molster; Cabin Boys, Evelyn Thornley, Frances Gruver, Winifred Wilson, Janet Robertson; Water Witches, Carolyn Hiser, Elizabeth Webb, Janet Robertson, Ruby Bresnahan, Ellen Matsuhaira, Marjorie Sikken, Margaret Wilson, Esther Rushe, Wanda Berks, Iona Soules, Ellen Dugan, Dorothy Baver, Katherine Clarke, Mildred Ervin, Alice MacGregor, Mae R. Smith; Sea Nymphs, Betty Fainter, Winifred Hiser, Haru Matsudaira, E. Gray, Eleanor Bersnahan, Margaret Webb, Marion Blaisdell, Blanche Haislup, Madeline Wilcoxen, Estelle Smith, Catherine Cratty, Ruby Diasline, Ethel Hammett, Margaret Smith, Thelma Harrison.

The pianist was Mrs. C. L. Aiello.

A number of Special acts marked the program including dance and song, Miss Mary O'Malley; bass solo "Cut of the Deep," Powell Waters; Deck Dance, Allie Bowers; Bass solo, "On the Billowy Sea," Edward M. Barren.

Between the acts Mr. Kennedy very cleverly featured an impersonation of jerry Lauder in several Scotch airs and melodies which was thoroughly enjoyed.

A feature of the performances Wednesday and Friday evenings was the presence of a 40-piece bugle and drum corps of the Washington Boy Scouts in charge of Sergt. Henry Loveless.

C.L. Alexis was general chairman in charge of the entertainment. Committees, the first named in each case being chairmen wree: Talent, P.K. Parlett, jr., A.W. Suess, Raymond Czarra, Louis N. Spangler, C.L. Ajullo, H.S. Sonnenberg. Tickets, Alan H. Pottinger, Henry Hiser, William H. Constantine, O.R. Butler, George T. Hunter, A.G. Whalley. Program, J.N. Brooks, J.M. Edlavitch, H.T. McClay, K.A. McRae, H.F. Newman.

A completion date was set, the cancellation was planned and held on July 12, 1925. IN order to meet the deadline the membership of the Post and their friends had to take picks and shovels. Saturday and Sunday were spent filling in and leveling off the grounds around the base.

The Washington Post

July 13, 1925

LEGION DEDICATES BLANDENSBURG WAR MEMORIAL CROSS

Representative Gambrill Asks Former Soldiers to Outlaw War

MRS. BRADLEY SNYDER UNVEILS MONUMENT

Memorial is Work of John D. Early' Parade Precedes Ceremony

That future generations passing through Blandensburg, Md., may be reminded of the 49 young men of Prince Georges county who made the supreme sacrifice in the world war, as unadorned cross 10 feet high at the fork of the Baltimore pike and the Annapolis memorial highway was dedicated yesterday afternoon. Ceremonies were held under the auspices of the Soyder-Farmer post. American Legion, of Bladensburg, which is composed of the survivors of the Fourth Maryland regiment.

That war be forever outlawed was the keynote appeal of Representative Stephen W. Cambris of the Fifth Maryland district, who delivered the dedication address.

"Where we of the past generation have failed to prevent war perhaps the young men of the American Legion or the mothers who gave their sons in the conflict may succeed," was the hope expressed by the speaker. "You men of Prince Georges county fought for the sacred right of all to live in peace and security and by the tokes of this cross, symbolic of Cavalry.

Let us keep fresh the memory of our bags who died for a righeous cause."

Following the representative's address the cross was unvieled by Mrs. Bradley A. Snyder of Blandensburg assisted by John H. Riser, commander of the local legion post. The American flag at the base of the monument when removed revealed a bronze tablet 5 by 21 feet, on which are inscribed the names of the 49 soldiers. At the bottom of the tablet is the following quotation from President Woodrow Wilson. "The right is more precious than peace, we shall find for the things we have always carried nearest our hearts: to such a task we dedicate our lives." On the four sides of the base of the monument are the words "Valor," "Endurance," "Courage," "Devotion." There is no other inscription on the memorial. Each area of the cross measures 5 feet and the base is 12 feet square. It was constructed at a cost of $10,000 by John D. Early of this city, sculptor and arbitrator. The material is a mixture of concrete and marble. At a distance it resembles sandstone, having almost the same color, light brown with a reddish brown border. It came down the Baltimore pike toward Washington and an American flag flies from a staff to one side.

Music for the ceremony was furnished by the Army Music School band. Mayor Irwin Owings of Hyattsville spoke, a history of Company F, 115th Infantry was recited by the Rev. F.C. Reynolds, chaplain of that until during the war. Other speakers included Mrs. George C. Selbold, president of War Mothers Col. James F. Abbott, commander depart-ment of Maryland, American Legion and Commander Hiser of the Balenburg pmpt. Invocation was given by the

Rev. A.J. Carey, pastor of St. Jerome's Catholic church Hyattsville and the Rev. B.P. Robertson, pastor of the First Baptist church of Hyattsville pronounced the benediction.

The Vincent B. Costello post, Fife and Drum corps of Washington, and the apparatus of the Prince Georges county tree department, participated in the parade through Brandenburg before the dedication exercises.

When streams of molten lava flowed down the mountainside from the crater of Vesuvius upon Pompeii, they ruthlessly carried before them structures of civilization painstakingly erected through many years' weary toll by the peace-loving populace, living defenseless at its base; but in these ruins there still remain standing the concrete slabs which formed the wall of what was then known as the theater-a building that was used for instruction in the arts, sciences and moralities of the day. In like manner, when the German hordes swept out upon their fellowmen, they eventually encountered the solid concrete determination of the world to preserve forever its institutions of enlightenment and justice.

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PEACE CROSS REDEDICATED

Representatives of Veterans groups, local dignitaries, and community residents recently gathered for rededication ceremonies commemorating the newly renovated World War I Peace Cross Memorial. Among those who joined Congressman Steny Hoyer and County Executive Parris Glendening in this event on Veteran's Day were Mayor William R. Seymour, Council-man Larry Lyons (who sang the National Anthem), Councilwoman Della Buscher, Councilwoman Marion Hoffman, and Councilman McNamara. In a ceremony honoring the soldiers if World War I, World War II, and the Korean and Vietnamese conflicts, approximately 30 wreaths were laid at the base of the cross by Veteran's groups and Women's Auxiliary organizations. Mrs. Susanna Cristofane and Mrs. Gertrude McClay were honored with a Resolution and flowers for their help in building the original Peace Cross.

The turn out was a great success, as approximately 350 people gathered for this event. We wish to thank the Peace Cross Memorial Restoration Committee, chaired by Councilwoman Marion Hoffman, for their efforts on this memorable event, and everyone who turned out.

The Honorable Parris N. Glendening,
County Executive
and
The Prince George's County Planning Board
of the Maryland-National Capital
Park and Planning Commission
cordially invite you to attend
a rededication of
The Peace Cross Memorial
Bladensburg Road and Baltimore Avenue
Bladensburg, Maryland
on Monday, November 11, 1985
10:00 A.M.
This event is sponsored in cooperation with
The Peace Cross Memorial Restoration Committee
and the Town of Bladensburg

DIRECTIONS: From Capital Beltway take Route 450 toward Bladensburg and follow approximately 4 miles
to the Peace Cross site.

224
The Maryland National Capitol
Park and Planning Commission
Department of Parks and Recreation
Prince George's County
PPC PR PA 10685

BLADENSBURG PROMOTION COMMITTEE
4229 Edmonston Avenue
Bladensburg, Maryland 20710

October 29, 1999

The Bladensburg Town Officials and our Promotion Committee are extending an invitation to your organization and friends to be present and participate in our Annual Salute to Veterans Day on Thursday, November 11, 1999 at 11:00 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park - The World War I Memorial Cross Area.

Floral Tributes will be placed at the base of the peace cross in tribute to all those veterans who sacrificed their all the "The Altar Of Freedom For American Ideals." Confirm your attendance by contacting the Bladensburg Town Hall at 301-927-7048, before 4:00 p.m., November 9, 1999. Please present your organization name to the event organizer when arrive Peace Cross and you will be recognized.

The Colmar Manor American Legion Post 131 will have an open house, following the ceremonies and all are invited to attend.

Sincerely,

/s/ William A. Hickey, Jr.

William A. Hickey, Jr. Marion M. Hoffman
Chairman Promotion Committee Town Council

CONFIDENTIAL TAL-00000001

COLMAR MANOR POST NO. 131, AMERICAN LEGION

"Maryland's Friendliest"

4103 LAWRENCE STREET
COLMAR MANOR, MARYLAND 20722

June 6, 1990

Mayor Ben Stephenson
Town of Bladensburg
4229 Edmonston Ave.
P.O. Box 39
Bladensburg, MD 20710

Dear Mayor Stephenson,

In reference to your letter of May 23, 1990 Colmar Manor Post 131, The American Legion will be placing floral tributes at the Bladensburg Annual July 4th Patriotic Ceremonies at Memorial Peace Cross.

The names of the individuals that will be representing Colmar Manor Post 131 at the wreath laying ceremonies will be Commander Elect Dane A. Weber and President Elect Suzzette Jones.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Ralph L. Johnson

Ralph L. Johnson
Post Adjutant

TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
4229 Edmonston Avenue
Post Office Box 39
Bladensburg, Maryland 20710
927-7048 OR 927-7962

May 23, 1990

American Legion Post 131
c/o Commander George Ent
4103 Lawrence Street
Colmar Manor, Md. 20722

Dear Commander Ent:

If your organization will be placing a floral tribute at the Bladensburg Annual July 4th Patriotic Ceremonies at the Memorial Peace Cross, please inform Michelle Doswell - Administrative Assistant - at the above listed numbers.

Please respond by Friday June 15, 1990.

Indicate the name of your organization and the names of those placing the floral tribute, so they may be included in the program.

Sincerely,

/s/ Ben

Ben Stephenson
Mayor

/s/ Danial Long

Danial Long
Promotion Committee

CONFIDENTIAL TAL-00000003

TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
4229 Edmonston Avenue
Post Office Box 39
Bladensburg, Maryland 20710

May 5, 198

Commander George Ent
Colmar Manor Post 131
4103 Lawrence Street
Colmar Manor, Md. 20722

Dear Commander:

The Town of Bladensburg wishes to confirm your Honor Guard Unit presenting and retiring the Colors at our July 4th, 1989 ceremony at the Memorial Cross at 11:00am.

Immediately following the ceremony the uniformed members of your Unit will be our guests at a luncheon at the Bladensburg Fire Hall.

Sincerely,

/s/ William Seymour
William Seymour
Mayor

/s/ Danial Long
Danial Long
Promotion Committee

WS:DL:mld

CONFIDENTIAL TAL-00000004

MEMORIAL DAY
World War I
World War II
Korea – Vietnam

May 31, 2004
Veterans' Memorial Park
Bladensbug, Maryland

Town of Bladensburg &
American Legion Colmar Manor 131

This program is dedicated to the Veterans and Fallen Comrades of World War II.

WE DID NOT FORGET!

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

The Town of Bladensburg:

Department of Public Works
Police Department
Code Enforcement

American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131
American Legion Colmar Manor Auxiliary Unit 131
Sons of the American Legion
Colmar Manor Squadron 131

Program Coordinators: Marion Hoffman, Councilwoman
Town of Bladensburg

Carole Hammonds – Public Relations
American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 131

Program Publisher – Carole Hammonds

Memorial Photos – Carole Hammonds

PROGRAM

Presentation of Colors	American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131 & Squadron Jennifer Stewart -Bowie High JRCTO
National Anthem	Recording
Opening Prayer	Pastor Curtis Robinson Faith-Deliverance-Soul Saving Station
Recognition of Guests	Marlon Hoffman, Councilwoman Town of Bladensburg Liaison, Promotion Committee
	Waiter Ficklin, Councilman Mayor Pro Tern-Town of Bladensburg
	Steve Prender, Past Commander American Legion Post 131
	Michael Odeem, 2nd Vice Commander American Legion PG County Council
	Chris Needham-Town of Bladensburg
Principal Speaker	Robert Chiarizia, Past Commander American Legion Post 131 & Amer-

	ican Legion PG County Council
Floral Tributes	Veterans and Other Groups
TAPS	Recording
Closing Prayer	Pastor Curtis Robinson Faith-Deliverance-Soul Saving Station
God Bless America	Recording - Sung by Kate Smith
Invitation to Lunch	Steve Prender, Past Commander American Legion Post 131 American Legion
Retirement of Colors	American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131 & Squadron Jennifer Stewart-Bowie High JROTC

The Plaque on
The World War II
Honor Roll:

"In Memory of the Men and
Women of Prince George's
County Who Made the
Supreme Sacrifice That
Freedom Might Live."

World War II

"Yesterday, December 7, 1941: A date which will live in infamy The United States of America was

suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan." President Franklin D. Roosevelt. So began his address to Congress the day after the attack. Later that day, the United States and Britain declare war on Japan. On December II , Congress approved similar declarations of war against Germany and Italy - Germany and Italy declared war on the United States. Thus the European and Southeast Asian wars now become a global conflict with the Axis powers, Japan, Germany and Italy, united against America, Britain. France, and their Allies. America had entered World War II

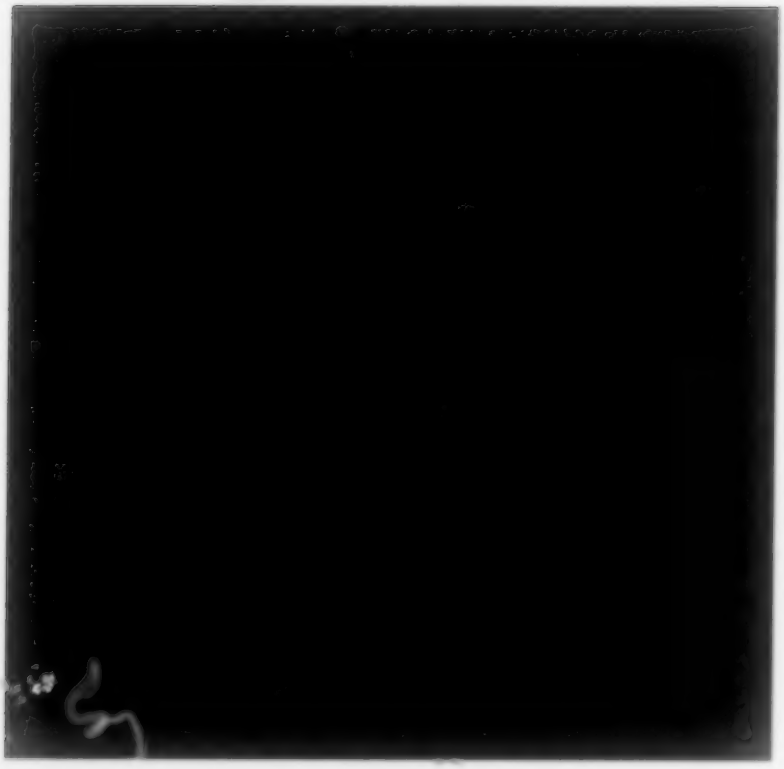
405,399 Americans lost their lives during
World War II

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY
May 31, 2010

AT PEACE CROSS MEMORIAL
BLADENSBURG, MARYLAND

Sponsored by:
American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131
and the
Town of Bladensburg Patriotic Committee

VETERAN'S DAY
CEREMONY
PEACE CROSS MEMORIAL
NOVEMBER 11, 2012



Sponsored By:
American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131
and
Town of Bladensburg Patriotic Committee

VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM 2012

Commanders Charge:	Phil Holdcraft
Presentation Of Colors:	Maj. Davis / Bladensburg High Rotc
National Anthem:	Lt. Colonel Kiker
Invocations:	Frank Stultz / A.L. 131 Chaplain
Call To Order:	Phil Holdcraft / A.L. 131 Commander
Recognition of Guest:	Marion Hoffman / Patriotic Comm. Phil Holdcraft / Commander Post 131
Welcome:	Walter James / Mayor Walter George / Council Person
Guest Speaker:	Gary Gifford / 1st Vice Commander SMB American Legion
Floral Tributes:	TBA
Taps:	Lt. Colonel Kiker
Benediction:	Frank Stultz / AL 131 Chaplin
Invitation to Lunch:	Phillip Holdcraft / Commander Post 131

Retirement of Colors: Maj. Davis / Bladensburg High ROTC

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

BLADENSBURG POLICE DEPT. / BLADENSBURG DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS & THE R.O.T.C.

THANK You!
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT
TO SAVE
OUR
PEACE
CROSS

- BLANK -

241

VETERAN'S DAY SERVICE

PEACE CROSS

BLADENSBURG RD

11/11/12

11:00 AM

COME OUT AND SHOW HOW IMPORTANT OUR CROSS IS

FOR OUR MILITARY AND HONOR OUR VETERAN'S.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

- BLANK -

243

HONOR ALL THAT SERVE

THANKS EVERYONE FOR COMING

2013

MEMORIAL DAY

PROGRAM

Presentation of Colors:	R.O.T.C.
Pledge of Allegiance:	Everyone
National Anthem:	Lt. Colonel Kiker
Invocation:	Post 131
Call to Order:	Phillip Holdcraft / Commander Post 131
Recognition of Guest:	Marion Hoffman / Patriotic Committee Phillip Holdcraft Commander Post 131
Welcome:	Walter James, Mayor Town of Bladensburg
Guest Speaker:	Gary Gifford, 1st Vice SMB
Floral Tributes: TBA	TBA
Taps:	Lt. Colonel Kiker
Benediction:	Post 131
Invitation to Lunch:	Phillip Holdcraft / Commander Post 131
Retirement of Colors:	R.O.T.C.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

BLADENSBURG
POLICE DEPT.

BLADENSBURG DEPT.
OF PUBLIC WORKS

BLADENSBURG PATRIOTIC COMMITTEE
MARION HOFFMAN

PLEASE
TAKE A MOMENT AND
REMEMBER
OUR
VETERANS AND ESPECI A LLY
THE ONE'S
THAT GAVE THE
GREATEST SACRIFICE

245

MEMORIAL DAY

CEREMONY MAY 27, 2013

AT PEACE CROSS MEMORIAL

BLADENSBURG, MARYLAND

MEMORIAL DAY

Sponsored by:

American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131

and the

Town of Bladensburg Patriotic Committee

2013

246
- BLANK -

247

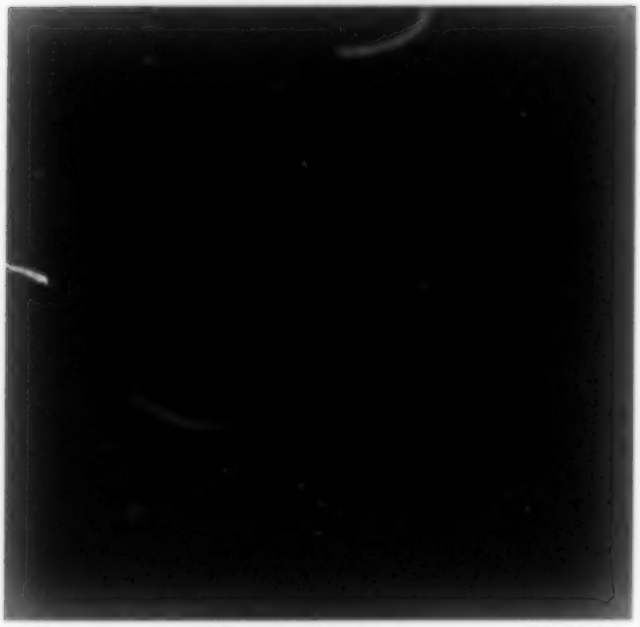
MEMORIAL DAY

CEREMONY

May 26, 2014

At the Peace Cross Memorial

Bladensburg Maryland



Sponsored by:

American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131

and the

Town of Bladensburg Patriotic Committee

THAT SERVE
FOR COMING

249

MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM

Presentation of Colors:	R.O.T.C.
Pledge of Allegiance:	Everyone
Invocation:	Frank Stultz Chaplain Post 131
Call to Order:	Phillip Holdcraft Commander Post 131
Recognition of Guest:	Marion Hoffman Patriotic Committee
	Phillip Holdcraft Commander Post 131
Welcome:	Walter James, Mayor Town of Bladensburg
Guest Speaker:	Gary Gifford, Commander S.M.D.
Floral Tributes:	TBA
Taps:	
Benediction:	Frank Stultz Chaplain Post 131

Invitation to Lunch: Philip Holdcraft
Commander Post 131

Retirement of Colors: R.O.T.C.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

BLADENSBURG
POLICE DEPT.

BLADENSBURG DEPT.
OF PUBLIC WORKS

BLADENSBURG PATRIOTIC COMMITTEE
MARION HOFFMAN

PLEASE
TAKE A MOMENT
AND
REMEMBER
OUR
VETERANS
AND ESPECIALLY
THE ONE'S
THAT GAVE THE
GREATEST SACRIFICE

THE POST 131 VETERAN

STILL SERVING AMERICA

4103 LAWRENCE ST

COLMAR MANOR MD 20722

301.779.4264

EM MTG - 1ST WED - 6:30PM

BC BOARD MTG - 3RD WED - 6:30PM

SAL MTG - 1ST THURS - 7PM

AUX MTG - 1ST WED - 7PM

- BLANK-

MEMORIAL DAY

SERVICE

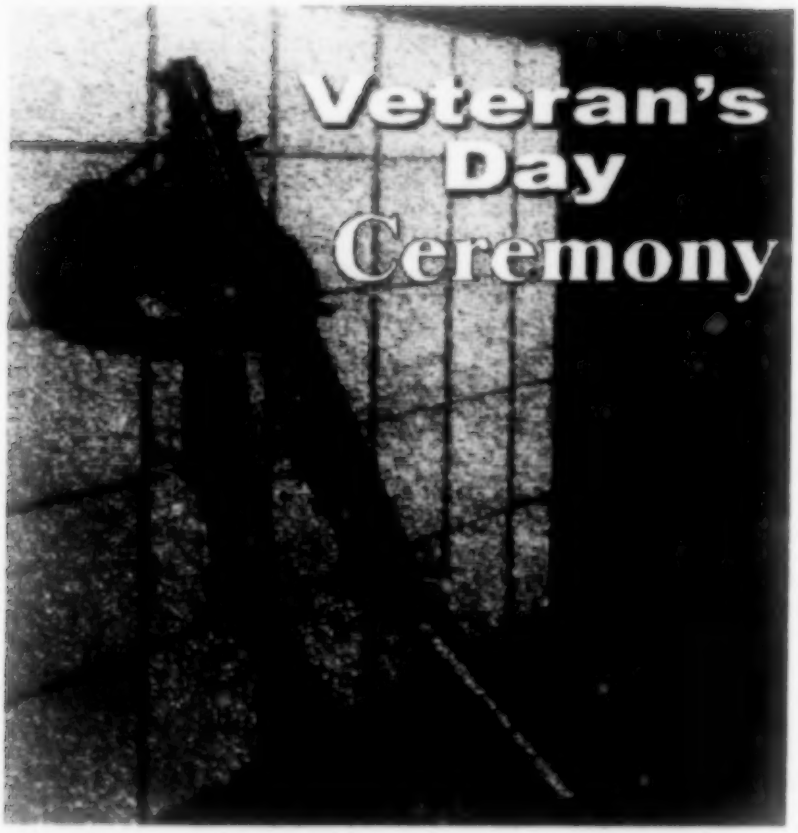
May 26, 2014

Peace Cross

11:00 am

"A very moving service for our
Veterans that hve gone to
Post Everlasting"

- BLANK-



PEACE CROSS MEMORIAL
NOVEMBER 11, 2013

SPONSORED BY:
AMERICAN LEGION COLMAR MANOR POST 131
AND
TOWN OF BLADENSBURG PATRIOTIC COMMITTEE

VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM 2013

COMMANDERS CHARGE	PHIL HOLDCRAFT
PRESENTATION OF COLORS	MAJ. DAVIS / BLADENSBURG HIGH ROTC
NATIONAL ANTHEM	LT. COLONEL KIKER
INVOCATIONS	FRANK STULTZ / A.L. 131 CHAPLAIN
CALL TO ORDER	PHIL HOLDCRAFT / A.L. 131 COMMANDER
RECOGNITION OF GUEST	MARION HOFFMAN / PATRIOTIC COMM.
	PHIL HOLDCRAFT / A.L. 131 COMMANDER

SPECIAL T

BLADENSBURG POLICE DEPT. / BLADEN

VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM 2013

WELCOME	WALTER JAMES / MAYOR WALTER GEORGE / COUNCIL PERSON
GUEST SPEAKER	GEORGE SCHAAB / P.G. COUNTY COMMANDER
FLORAL TRIBUTES	TBA
TAPS	LT. COLONEL KIKER
BENEDICTION	FRANK STULTS / A.L. 131 CHAPLAIN
INVITATION TO LUNCH	PHILLIP HOLDCRAFT / A.L. 131 COMMANDER
RETIREMENT OF COLORS	MAJ. DAVIS' BLADENSBURG HIGH ROTC

ANKS TO

BURG DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS & THE R.O.T.C.

THANK YOU!

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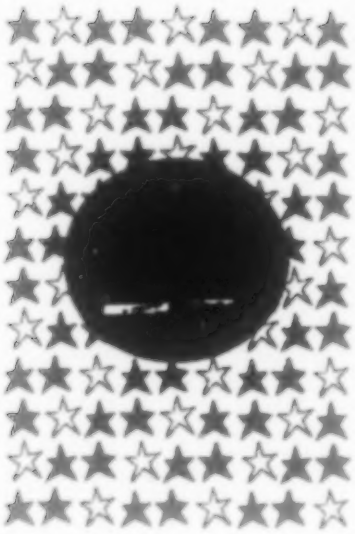


TAKE PRIDE

★ IN OUR ★

VETS

HONOR OUR VETS

PEACE CROSS MEMORIAL

NOVEMBER 11, 2010 - 11 AM

SPONSORED BY:

AMERICAN LEGION COLMAR MANOR POST 178

AND

TOWN OF BLADENSBURG PATRIOTIC COMMITTEE

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM 2014

PAST COMM-ANDERS CHARGE	PHIL HOLD-CRAFT	WELCOME	WALTER JAMES / MAYOR WALTER GEORGE / COUNCIL PERSON
PRESENT-ATION OF COLORS	MAJ. DAVIS / BLAD-ENSB-URG HIGH ROTC	GUEST SPEAKER	HAYWARD MOSS / P.G. COUNTY COM-MANDER
NATIONAL ANTHEM	LT. COLONEL KIKER		
		FLORAL TRIBUTES	TBA
INVO-CATIONS	POST 131		
		TAPS	LT. COLONEL KIKER
CALL TO ORDER	PHIL HOL-DCRAFT /PAST COM-MAND-ER A.L. 131		

		BENE-DICTION	POST 131
RECO-GNITION OF GUEST	MARION HOF-FMAN / PAT-RIOTIC COMM. PHIL HOLD-CRAFT PAST COMM-ANDER A.L. 131	INVIT-ATION TO LUNCH	PHILLIP HOLDCRAFT / PAST COM-MANDER A.L. 131
		RETIRE-MENT OF COLORS	MAJ. DAVIS / BLADENS-BURG HIGH ROTC

SPECIAL THANKS TO

BLADENSBURG POLICE DEPT. / BLADENSBURG DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS ROTC

- BLANK-

265

MEMORIAL DAY

CEREMONY

May 31, 2010

AT PEACE CROSS MEMORIAL

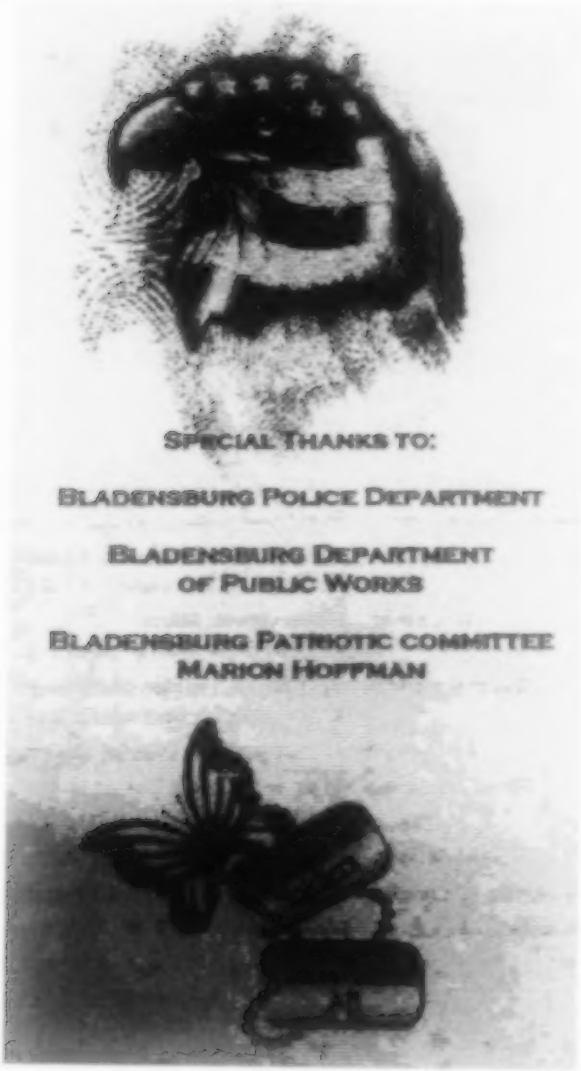
BLADENSBURG, MARYLAND

Sponsored by:

American Legion Colmar Manor Post 131

and the

Town of Bladensburg Patriotic Committee



SPECIAL THANKS TO:

BLADENSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

BLADENSBURG DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC WORKS

BLADENSBURG PATRIOTIC COMMITTEE
MARION HOFFMAN

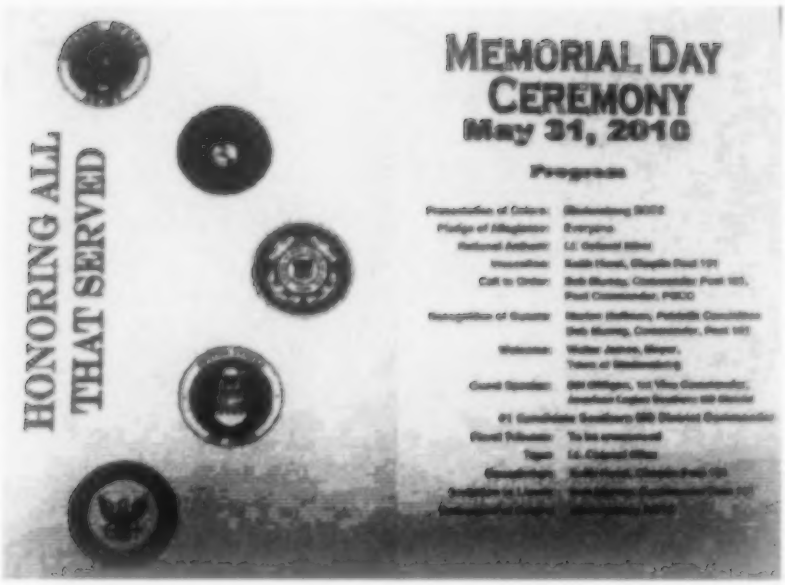
MEMORIAL DAY
CEREMONY
May 31, 2010

Presentation of Colors:	Bladensburg ROTC
Pledge of Allegiance:	Everyone
National Anthem:	Lt. Colonel Kiker
Invocation:	Keith Hurst, Chaplin Post 131
Call to Order:	Bob Murray, Commander Post 131, Past Commander, PGCC
Recognition of Guests:	Marion Hoffman, Patriotic Committee Bob Murray, Commander, Post 131
Welcome:	Walter James, Mayor, Town of Bladensburg
Guest Speaker:	Bill Milligan, 1st Vice Commander, American Legion Southern MD District

#1 Candidate Southern MD District Commander

Floral Tributes:	To be announced
Taps:	Lt. Colonel Kiker
Benediction:	Keith Hurst, Chaplin Post 131

Invitation to Lunch:	Bob Murray, Commander Post 131
Retirement of Colors:	Bladensburg ROTC


HONORING ALL
THAT SERVED
MEMORIAL DAY
CEREMONY
May 31, 2010
Program

270

REDEDICATION OF PEACE CROSS MEMORIAL

Bladensbrg Maryland
Monday, November 11, 1985
10:00 A.M.

VETERANS DAY

PROGRAM

WREATH LAYING CEREMONY

Prince George's County
Hon. Parris N. Glendening, County Executive

Town of Bladensburg
William R. Seymour, Mayor

Bladensburg Promotion Committee
Dan Long, Chairman
David Soule, Vice Chairman

Amerian Legion colmar Manor Post #131
Charles Schafer, Commander
Franklin Stultz, George Ent. Past commanders

American Legion Cheverly Post #108
Donald Murphy, Commander

Sandy Watkins, 1st Vice Commander

American Legion Clinton Post #259
Hirma Johnson, Jr., Commander
Toni Carr, Auxiliary President

American Legion Laurel Post #110
Robert E. Warwick, Commander
Rose Leebrick, Auxiliary President

American Legion Forestville Post #126
Ladies Auxiliary
Jody Cominsky, President

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Scott-Johnson-Collins Post #9619
Ladies Auxiliary

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Phillip Kleinier Post #5627
Joe Czarny, Commander
Jodey D'Adamo, Auxiliary President

Vetrans of Foreign Wars
Hyattsville Memorial Post #10746
Frank A. Thompson, Commander

Veterans of Foreign Wars
General Douglas MacArthur Post #983
John F. Mall, Commander
Fracis Salveron, Past Commander
Anna Salveron, Auxiliary President

Irish War Veterans, U.S.A.
John F. Sheehan, Jr., William Hickey, Jr.,

Bart Finn, Jr., Past National Commanders

Daughters of '98
Martha Ludwig, President
Helen Grissam
Grace Rankin

Mabuhay Phillippine American Association
Loudres B. Alexander, President

Prince George's County Civic Federation
Dan Ritchie, President

Disabled American Veterans Chapter #17
and Ladies Auxiliary Unit #17
James M. Combs, Commander
Paul J. James, Past Commander
Marie E. James, Past Unit Commander
Fred Strotkamp, Past Adj.
Terry mansberry (Vietnam Veteran)

Military Order of Work Wars
Commander Goldsbourgh
Adj. Donald Miller

Chief Warrant Officer Charles P. Dondero—
Official Wreath Escort

PEACE CROSS MEMORIAL
RESTORATION COMMITTEE

Marion M. Hoffman—Vice Chairman

Danial Long

Carl N. Thomas
Bill Winter
R. Dan Ritchie
Richard A. Ager
William A. Hickey, Jr.
Mike Zane
Eric Morsicato—Liaison, Town of Bladensburg

Special Acknowledgements

Rolling Pik Bakery—Mr. Willy Frueh

AFTER ACTION REPORT

Maryland-National Capital Park Police,
Prince George's County Division

October 13, 2012

EVENT: Save the Peace Cross Demonstration.

LOCATION: Bladensburg Waterfront Park

PARK NO: N94/3I

DATE & DAY OF WEEK: 10/13/12 Saturday

TIMES: 1200-1600 hrs.

PERSONNEL HOURS: 16 hrs.

OVERTIME HOURS: None

CROWD TYPE: Citizens/ Veterans/ Family

APPROXIMATE CROWD SIZE: 150

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Warm/ Sunny

SPECIAL HAZARDS / CONDITIONS: None

ADEQUATE PERSONNEL FOR THE EVENT?
(X) YES ( ) NO

IF NOT, ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT /
PERSONNEL NEEDED: OFFICERS: HORSES:

BICYCLES: MOTORS: OTHER:

NUMBER OF ARRESTS: 0 CALLS FOR SERVICE: 0

OFFICER IN CHARGE: Sgt. Lawless #244

OPERATION CARE LITERATURE DISTRIBUTED / TYPE & 4: N/A
(MAGNETS, BROCHURES, PACKETS, ETC)

OTHER LITERATURE / TYPE & #: N/A
(COLORING BOOKS, BOOK COVERS, SAFETY TIPS, SPORTS CARDS, ETC.)

COMMENTS. Orderly veterans/ family oriented demonstration. No counter demonstrators

FW: PEACE CROSS DEMONSTRATION

Day, Edward

Thu 5/29/14 6:11PM

To: Kernan, Greg <Greg.Kernan@pgparks.com; Lowe, Kyle <Kyie.Lowe@pgparks com; Pesses, Anita <Anita.Pesses@pgparks.com; Johnson, Roslyn <Roslyn.Johnaon@parks.com:

Davey, Andrea <Andrea.Davey@mncppc.org

I know you are aware, this is just an FYI from Colmar Manor PD

Ed

Edward Day
Acting Assistant Parks Division Chief
Natural & Historical Resources Division
6707 Green Landing Road,
Upper Marlboro, MD, 20772
301.627.2270 / fax 301.952.0936
Museum Director
Riverdale House Museum
4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737
301.864.0420 / TTY 301.699.2544 /
fax 301 927.3498

Department of Parks and Recreation
The Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission
Edward.Day@pgparks.com / history.pgparks.com

Begin forwarded message:

From: Brian Gibson Gison@colmarmanor.org
Date: May 29, 2014 at 5:18:30 PM EDT
To: Undisclosed recipients;
Subject: Peace Cross Demonstration

All,

Please be aware there will be a demonstration at the Peace Cross, Saturday, May 31, 2014, 1:00PM-7,00PM in reference to current dispute with an anticipated attendance of at least 1,000 people due to the amount of social media coverage. There is another event taking place in the Bladensburg Waterfront Park as well involving elected officials.

There will be different allied police agencies presence during the event to control traffic within the Port Towns. Myself and staff will be present in town as well to assist with traffic control and monitor parking. MNPPC Park PD will be allowing overflow parking In the Colmar Manor Ball Park and will have electronic traffic boards in place tomorrow on Bladensburg and Annapolis Roads warning everyone of possible traffic delays. I please ask everycne to be mindful of the additional traffic and parking that may result from this event.

Brian P. Gibson. Sr.
Chief of Police
Colmar Manor Police Department
3611 43rd. Ave.
Colmar Manor, MD 20722
O 301-779 5491
F 301-7793483
bgibsona@colmarrnanor.org

CONFIDENTIAL
FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT USE ONLY

Maryland-National Capital Park Police
Prince George's County Division
Operational Plan

Event Name:

Bladensburg Waterfront: Multi-Event **Date:** May 31, 2014

A. Demonstration: Peace Cross Memorial
B. Open House: Bladensburg Waterfront

Park No: N94; **RD:** 31

Location:

Bladensburg and Colmar Manor Areas. Specifically: *4601 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg, MD*

Contact Person(s): Cathy Davis
Phone: 301.742.1686

Additional Contact Person: Bernadine Sandy (M-NCPPC)
Phone: 301.779.0371

Primary Planner: Lieutenant Brian Waters
Date Assigned: 5/27/14
Date Complete: 5/27/1413

Patrol Methods(s): Motor Vehicle, Foot, Horse Mounted, and Motorcycle Patrol

Park Radio Channel: Park Tac 1

County Radio Channel: N/A

Required Equipment:

Uniform	Uniform of the Day (Tans)!				
Stetson	XX	Rain Gear	XX	Traffic Vest	XX
Traffic Wand	XX	Flash-light	XX	Digital Camera	XX
Gas Mask	XX	Riot Helmet	XX	CDU Body Armor	XX

Plan of Action:

Personnel assigned to the Bladensburg Waterfront Multi-Event will report to the City of Bladensburg Town Hall (4229 Edmonton Road, Bladensburg) at 1200 hours for a briefing and discussion about security measures at the Waterfront and Peace Cross Memorial.

Officers will be deployed--a handful at a time--to traffic-pedestrian safety posts around the memorial; we are expected to assist members of the public wishing to express their points of view, visit parkland, or freely commute via the many pedestrian and vehicular routes associated with Commission properties. Rotating deployments will provide periodic rest for officers and hopefully generate first-hand assessments from the scene (A precise rotation roster is forthcoming). An important thing to remember is that our presence today is meant to add to the safety and protection of all persons visiting (or commuting in proximity to) the memorial; the scope of our attention will likely include portions of the Town of Colmar Manor, Cottage City, and the City of Bladens-

burg. Generally speaking, our response will include foot patrol. horse-

We are expected to enforce Commission rules and regulations with *careful* discretion (checking with a supervisor before taking such action is highly recommended). Criminal and traffic enforcement should be undertaken in a way that strikes a balance between professional obligation and a tolerance (respect) for the complexity of such demonstrations.

Importantly, each of us must avoid expressing our opinions about the controversy lying at the center of the Peace Cross debate! The mere presence of a large number of people in and around one of the county's busiest intersections warrants a reasonable police presence. Our primary (only) responsibility is to enhance the safety of all visitors at and around the memorial site. We should be especially prepared to direct visitors toward parking locations, assist people crossing streets, and prevent prohibited parking on the shoulders of roads around the memorial site, in addition to our normal policing duties. *Have a neutral voice with respect to the protest itself.*

Maryland-National Capital Park Police: Personnel Duty Roster

Officer	Radio Number	Duty Hours	Special Notes
Lt. Brian Waters	Car 5	1200-2000	OIC
Sgt. Haywood	751	1200-2200	Motorcycle
Officer Benson/Officer Young II	756	1200-2200	Foot/Cruiser
Officer Heck	755	1200-	Foot/Cruiser

Officer	Radio Number	Duty Hours	Special Notes
		2200	
Officer Miller	758	1200-2200	Foot/Cruiser
Sergeant Evans	770	1200-2200	Motorcycle
Officer Rumsey	775	1200-2200	Foot/Cruiser
Officer McCracken	776	1200-2200	Foot/Cruiser
Acting-Sgt. Gratton/ Officer D. Savoy	870a and 870*b*	1100-2100	Two-Horse Team
Officer Keo/Officer Jefferson	875a and 875*b*	1100-2100	Two-Horse Team
Officer Skeete	879	1100-2100	Motorcycle
Officer Mileo and "Kane"		1100-?	Bomb Detection
Ranger 1			Parking
Ranger 2			Parking

Bladensburg City Police: Personnel Duty Roster

Officer	Radio Number	Duty Hours	Special Notes
Sergeant Charles R. Cowling	Bladensburg 281	1200 - 2000	
PFC Mahir	Bladens	1200 -	

Officer	Radio Number	Duty Hours	Special Notes
Ayoub	burg 323	2000	
PFC David Calloway	Bladens burg 326	1200 - 2000	
PFC Charles Earle	Bladens burg 325	1200 - 2000	
PFC Alex Salinas	Bladens burg 320	1200 - 2000	
Officer LoQune Brown	Bladens burg 328	1200 - 2000	
Officer Walker Dunbar	Bladens burg 329	1200 - 2000	
Officer Maria Ramirez	Bladens burg 331	1200 - 2000	

Prince George's County Police Personnel Duty Roster

Officer	Radio Number	Duty Hours	Special Notes
Cpl. Jaron Black (Cell (202) 669-7800)			On stand-by elsewhere
COPS Officer 2			On stand-by elsewhere

Officer	Radio Number	Duty Hours	Special Notes
COPS Officer 3			On stand-by elsewhere
COPS Officer 4			On stand-by elsewhere
COPS Officer 5			On stand-by elsewhere
COPS Officer 6			On stand-by elsewhere
COPS Officer 7			On stand-by elsewhere
COPS Officer 8			On stand-by elsewhere
COPS Officer 9			On stand-by elsewhere
COPS Officer 10			On stand-by elsewhere

Town of Colmar Manor Police; Personnel Duty Roster

Officer	Radio Number	Duty Hours	Special Notes
Chief Brian Gibson	CM90		Town patrol/field parking

Officer	Radio Number	Duty Hours	Special Notes
Sergeant Mary Simms	CM91		Town patrol/field parking
Pfc. Brian Lynch	CM93		Town patrol/field parking

Parking (Police):

- Police Parking will **be at** Bladensburg Town Hall, except For on-post officers.

Intelligence:

- None

Event/Groups Histories:

- Title: Save the Peace Cross Demonstration

  Organized by: **Cathy Davis and Jeff Clark**

  Group Narrative: A peaceful demonstration against the impending lawsuit filed by the American Humanist Association to have the Peace Cross removed. This is a WWI Veteran's Memorial that has been standing for nearly 90 years at the crossroads in Bladensburg, MD. Help us continue to honor our fallen heroes from

long ago. (Rain date: Saturday, June 14, 2014)

Cathy Davis' high estimate for attendance is more than a thousand, to include a large contingent of motorcyclists. She claims that low attendance at the last demonstration (2012) was a reflection of last-minute planning, and that this month's demonstration has been planned for many months and will include regional American Legion posts and motorcycle clubs from multiple states (at least seven). The Peace Cross itself has undergone certain modifications (the war-dead names have been repaired and pathways installed) which might encourage demonstrators to cross the busy intersection to closely visit the memorial Davis assured me that her group will have many ...

- Title: American Humanists Association

  Organized by: Various

  Group Narrative: The American Humanist Association has filed a Federal lawsuit alleging the cross violates the First Amendment. The AHA has made clear it does not object to memorializing soldiers, but rather the placement of a Christian symbol on land owned by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commis-

sion (a government entity).

We have no indication that the AHA will hold a counter demonstration; nonetheless, a section of Commission property opposite the Bladensburg Balloon Gardens Park will be reserved to facilitate their (or anyone else's) expression of views.

Special Resources:

- Rangers will be on site to help with parking wherever needed.
- VMS boards (two) will be deployed on Bladensburg Road (on the Bladensburg side and Colmar Manor side) and on Alternate Route 1, Southbound)

  Messages: "Watch for Pedestrians!" "Overflow Parking: Colmar Manor Park"

- Bomb-detection canine team will sweep the area at 1200 hours, prior to the start of the event (Officers Mileo and "Kane")

Command Post: N/A

Press Area:

To be determined by the OIC, on scene. Alf media inquiries should be referred to Lieutenant Brian Waters (240)870-7027

Arrest Teams:

The OIC will assign and deploy officers as needed, A holding area will be identified and established by the 01C. Once the area is stabilized the arrest team will transport all adult prisoners to the nearest Court Commissioner for processing and bond review, Juveniles will be processed and released on the scene

to a responsible adult relative and/or transported to Headquarters for processing.

In critical situations, additional Park Police assistance will be provided by day-work Park Police officers; notification must be made to the Patrol ODO, in the rare event that additional resources will be necessary.

Staging Area:

City of Bladensburg Town Hall.

Crowd Control Duties:

In the event of a mass arrest or civil disturbance situation the OIC will be notified, respond and take command of the situation. Park Police officers and partnering police agencies will stage at the Bladensburg Police Department. Should there be a need to move or disperse a crowd the horses will form at the front of the formation. Officers on foot will line up behind them. In such situations, any persons who attempt to harm any horses or officers shall be arrested. Motorcycle Officers shall respond to adjust traffic flow in a manner that creates a zone of safety for the public and responding officers.

Horses:

Horse Mounted Officers will be on site and available.

Civil Disorder:

Officers should follow the parameters of Divisional Directive PG 405.0 "Unusual Occurrences", Divisional Directive PG 400.0 Use of Force, Divisional Directive PG 403.0 Oleoresin Capsicum/OC Spray.

Mass Arrest Plan:

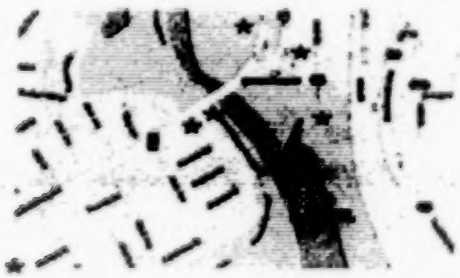
- OIC will be notified immediately when a mass arrest situation appears evident.

- Arrest Teams, responding units, and support personnel will stage at the Bladensburg Police Department.
- Deployment will be made by the 01C, unless otherwise directed.
- Arrest Teams and Transport Teams will be formed and assigned by the OIC, unless otherwise directed.
- Processing Teams will be established by the OIC or assigned supervisor
- Divisional Directive PG 405.0-"Unusual Occurrences" will be followed.

Demonstrators' Locations

Demonstrators' Parking Options

Place	Address
National News	4331 Bladensburg Road, Colmar Manor
Crossroads Bar	4103 Baltimore Avenue, Bladensburg
Old Port of Bladensburg Community Park	4430 Baltimore Avenue, Bladensburg
Levee (Between the river and National News)	4300 block Bladensburg Road, Colmar Manor
Colmar Manor Community Park (lowerfields)	*3508 38th Avenue, Colmar Manor*



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
GREENBELT DIVISION

Civil Action No. 8:14-cv-550-DKC

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, ET AL.,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION,

Defendant,

THE AMERICAN LEGION, et al.,

Defendant-Intervenors.

Filed May 5, 2015

30(b)(6) Deposition of MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK and PLANNING COMMISSION
Washington, D.C.
Wednesday, March 25, 2015
10:00 a.m.

THE WITNESS:
LAWRENCE E. QUARRICK

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* * *

Q Can you tell me are you employed?

A Yes.

Q And where are you employed?

A I'm employed with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the Department of Parks and Recreation, at our headquarters building, the Park and Recreation building on Kenilworth Avenue in Riverdale.

Q Is that a State agency?

A It's chartered by the State, but it's, it's a bi-county agency, so we are funded through Prince George's County, but it's chartered by the State of Maryland, which set up a park and planning agency to handle planning and design for Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.

Q And if we refer to your employer as the Commission, will that make sense to you?

A Yes.

Q How long have you been employed with the Commission?

A 29 years.

Q And what is it you currently do for them?

* * *

A * * * This project actually became part of the capital budget in FY 2009, which means the funds were available as of July 1st, 2008. Prior to that period those funds remained in the outer years as planning purposes but not approved to spend.

Q So am I understanding correctly that as of 2008 the funds in the budget were available for expenditure by the Commission?

A As of July 1st, 2008, which would have been fiscal year 2009 capital budget.

Q And are those funds specifically for the Peace Cross?

A Yes. That was one project of many that were approved that year.

Q And do you know what funds were approved that year?

A Yes. One hundred thousand dollars.

Q And what were those funds approved for?

A The project description for, just basically said for renovation, structural work for the Peace Cross Monument.

MR. DOTY: And, counsel, my understanding is there is another designee to testify as to the actual renovations and structural work; is that correct?

MR. DICKERSON: Correct. Regarding that topic. You might want to ask him about what was –

MR. DOTY: Expanded.

MR. DICKERSON: Yeah. Or what's been done or not. Just not to mislead you about what Mr. Stachura is going to talk about, but he can talk about it more substantively.

MR. DOTY: Okay.

BY MR. DOTY:

Q So with the understanding that I'm not expecting you to tell me the details of the work, can you tell me what work was funded?

A Yes. Well, the project description form allowed it to be used for studies to determine what needs to be done as well as actual work. And we have – I don't know how many divisions we had at the time, but currently we have 13 divisions, and our operat-

ing divisions often are the ones that come to us and say that we need funds for either a new project or a renovation project because they are out in the field and they have the best knowledge. So with this particular one the Natural and Historical Resource Division, NHRD we refer to it as, was handling the job.

I have architect and landscape architects and so forth, but on many projects other divisions will actually handle the work in terms of the design, but they are allowed to charge the approved PDF on project description form for the work. And in this case I don't have the details to it, but approximately 5,000 was spent for a study to analyze the structure to determine what may need to be done with the other funds.

Q And were there any other funds spent for a study?

A No. Not from this particular project. I mean thus far it's just the 5,000. The other monies of 95,000 remain in the project.

Q Are those funds still available today?

A Yes. The capital projects, the money rolls over from year to year until it's expended, and at that time the project is then deleted from

* * *

BY MR. DOTY:

Q So just to paraphrase, my understanding is that there are funds that are spent on routine maintenance, lighting, other items, but nobody is aware of

the exact dollar figure because the funds simply aren't accounted for in that way; is that correct?

A Yes.

Q Okay. And again I'll ask Mr. Stachura about the details of the maintenance work that's done.

Are you aware of any other funds that are spent by the Commission as they relate to the Peace Cross?

A No. I'm responsible for the Capital Improvement Program, and so that's the only funding that I have any knowledge of.

Q And other than the hundred thousand dollars that I believe you testified became part of the capital budget on July 1st, 2008, are there any other funds that have been allocated to the Peace Cross?

Q Are you aware of any RFPs that have gone out in your tenure for the Peace Cross?

A I'm not certain how the study that I referred to, the $5,000 was done, but I would assume that some sort of RFP did go out. I'm not sure what the limits were. You can do certain things under a certain dollar limit without an RFP. At that point I don't know what the limit was, but it's possible that an RFP would have gone out to see which firms that do structural analysis were interested in giving a price for this particular job.

MR. DOTY: I'm going to show you what we will mark as Quarrick Deposition Exhibit 2.

(Quarrick Exhibit Number 2

was marked for identification.)

BY MR. DOTY:

Q And I'll tell you, sir, this is a document that your counsel produced in this litigation. It's marked

AHA-INT7 and a whole bunch of zeros and then 11 and 12.

A Yes.

Q Do you have any reason to believe that the repairs that are discussed in this document in the amount of a hundred thousand dollars did not happen in approximately 1985?

A I don't have any reason to believe that it didn't happen. I think that's the way you posed the question. I began work with the Commission on January of '86, so I don't know, you know, whether it was done or not. But this document seems to indicate that it was.

MR. DOTY: And I'm going to show you what we will mark as Quarrick Exhibit Number 3.

(Quarrick Exhibit Number 3

was marked for identification.)

BY MR. DOTY:

Q If you could take a look at that document, which is again a document that was produced by the Commission in discovery with the marking AHA-INT1100182 through – unfortunately, the numbers are cut off.

A Is this multiple copies of the same thing or –

Q Well, that was going to be one of the things I was going to ask. It appears to me that the first several pages are some handwritten notes, and then you get to another section that appears to be the complete document. So you have had a chance to look?

A Yes.

Q So if for the moment we disregard the first five pages and then there begins what I would describe as a cover sheet that says Defendant's Supplemental Answer to Interrogatory Number 11 as the caption, and then the next page is captioned Request for Proposals?

A Right.

Q Do you recognize what this is?

A Yes, I do. That's what I was referring to earlier as to what a request for proposals is. This is an example of a document that we would refer to as an RFP.

Q And does this represent funds to be spent by the Commission?

A At this point yes, because you are only requesting the proposals. So following this type of solicitation there would be responses that would be evaluated. I see that there is an evaluation sheet as to the factors that they would utilize to score the various respondents, and then typically at that point there would be an evaluation committee that would look at – would do the scoring and then do a comparison as to total scores if there were two respondents, three respondents, and then a selection is based on the highest score.

Q And by the evaluation sheet, are you referring to the section six evaluation criteria on page 12?

A Yes.

Q Okay. And then going back now to the

first five pages –

MR. DICKERSON: I'm sorry, counsel. Which first five pages?

MR. DOTY: The first five pages of this exhibit.

MR. DICKERSON: The first five in the exhibit?

MR. DOTY: Correct. The ones that we ignored originally.

MR. DICKERSON: Okay.

BY MR. DOTY:

Q Do you know -- is this your handwriting?

A No, it's not.

Q Does it appearing to be handwriting that you recognize?

A I do not recognize the handwriting.

Q Looking at what's written on the very first page, does the handwriting have any meaning to you?

A It looks like it was --

MR. DICKERSON: I object. Calls for speculation.

BY MR. DOTY:

Q I'm not asking you to guess what -- it was really a yes or no if it does have meaning to you or not, and not what you might think it means is not what I'm asking.

A Yes. I understand the writing on there and to what it applies to.

Q And what is that?

A It appears to be notes that kind of summarize things that may have been important in terms of looking at this particular RFP.

Q Thank you. Do you know whether any funds were expended as a result of this RFP?

A I can only assume that since 5,000 were expended on what I referred to as a study, that this is probably the RFP that was the basis for that study.

Q If I refer you to the very last page of this document, which is page 19, it refers to attachments, number one, Peace Cross Evaluation of Conditions and Recommendations, Repairs/Restoration, by Daniel C. Filippelli, F-I-L-I-P-P-E-L-L-I, Preservation Consultant, April 18, 2010. Do you know if that's the study you have been talking about that cost $5,000.

A I don't know for sure because my division didn't handle this, but --

MR. DICKERSON: I would suggest that Mr. Stachura is the person who would know more about that.

Q This is a document that was produced by the Commission in discovery in this case marked AHA-INT11000440 through 444.

Do you have an understanding of what this document represents?

A It seems to be a chronology of various events that occurred on the points that this RFP was advertised to the current -- through January '13.

Q And the RFP you are talking about is Exhibit Number 3?

A Correct.

Q If I could just direct your attention to page 442, which is three pages in?

A Okay.

Q Five dates down to 2/1/11.

A Okay.

Q It makes reference to the initial proposal was $200,000 plus?

MR. DICKERSON: I will say that this is an area that I would suggest he is not designated for. This is Mr. Stachura's area as far as the substance of the projects themselves. Mr. Quarrick is here for 17, and the way we construed 17 is to speak to the actual expenditures of the funds and/or the encumbrance of the funds in the Capital Improvement Program.

MR. DOTY: Yes. And where I'm going with Mr. Quarrick, I'll go back with Mr. Stachura if we need, but actually this is related to that. And perhaps if I --

BY MR. DOTY:

Q Simultaneously I will direct your attention not just to the 2/1/11, but also to the very top entry 4/14/11, which reads: "The project will be delayed for one year because the bids were over budget and NHRD is working on other projects."

NHRD I believe you said was the --

A Natural Historical Resource Division.

Q And so are you aware of whether there were bids that were in excess of $200,000?

MR. DICKERSON: I'm going to object because he is not designated for this area.

MR. DOTY: Were funds expended?

MR. DICKERSON: I believe he has already

* * *

NEWS

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK & PLANNING COMMISSION

A Bi-County Commission serving Montgomery and Prince George's Counties

October 18 1985

NEWS RELEASE AND OUTLINE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THROUGH NOVEMBER 11, 1985

RE-DEDICATION OF PEACE CROSS MEMORIAL SCHEDULED

The newly renovated Peace Cross Memorial located at the intersection of Route 450 and Route 1 in Bladensburg will be rededicated in commemorative ceremonies on Veterans Day, Monday, November 11, 1985 at 10:00 a.m.

The Memorial shown here, was originally constructed in 1925 by a group of Prince Georgians who wished to erect a Memorial in memory of those men who lost their lives in World War I in the service of their country.

The Peace Cross Memorial underwent restoration due to deterioration from weather elements. The approximate cost for repairs was $100,000 which was funded as part of the FY '85-'86 budget of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

For information call 699-2407.

This event is sponsored by The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department

of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County in cooperation with the Prince George's County Executive's Office, the Peace Cross Memorial Restoration Committee and the Town of Bladensburg.

** M-N-C-P-P-C **

R-2-85-26-P

Phone interview with
Mrs. Hugh T. McClay, Sr. (Gerturde)

Mrs. McClay seems to be a very active and alert person she worked with her husband on the building of Peace Cross for many years until he was not able to work any more then the project was turned over to the Park and Planning. Mrs. McClay was voted outstanding Senior Citizens of the Year 1983 by the Jaycees.

Mrs. McClay worked 39 years at the Veterans Hospital in Washington, D.C. she has over 14000 hour volunteer work there.

She is the sec. for the Mt. Rainier Senior Citizens Club She is a member of the Fellowship Club in Mt. Rainier She is a member of the 1st Meth. Church in Hyattsville. She has also received a comendations from the church and many of the organizations.

SHE WILL CALL ME ON NOVEMBER 8, 1985 TO LET ME KNOW IF SHE HAS A RIDE TO THE REDEDICATION ON NOVEMBER 11, 1985, IF SHE DOES'NT HAVE A RIDE I TOLD HER SOMEONE WOULD PICK HER UP.

Submitted by

/s/Sharen

Sharen Collins

October 25, 1985 Steve,

Attached is background information on Susanne Cristofane and Mrs. Hugh T. McClay.

I spoke with Mrs. Cristofane some about the Peace Cross, but she didn't give me anything to go on. She informed me that I should speak with Mr. Francis Geary for the back ground info. Sorry I couldn't get anything from her, hope that the information I obtained is enough.

/s/ Sharen Collins

Sharen Collins
Town of Bladensburg

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Preservation and Restoration of
Peace Cross Monument

COMMISSION PROJECT TEAM:

PROJECT MANAGER
Robert Burgner

PROCUREMENT STAFF
Tina Bahm

SCOPE OF SERVICES

A. Introduction

The Natural and Historical Resources Division of the Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) is requesting proposals from qualified preservation contractors to restore the Peace Cross Monument.

The Peace Cross Monument has historical significance and all work involves preservation, stabilization, conservation, and restoration of architecturally significant elements. All work shall be designed and installed in accordance with National, State, and local codes and shall follow recommended treatment guidelines in the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation of Historic Buildings and the associated Preservation Briefs. Preservation treatment is defined as the retention of the greatest amount of historic fabric, along with the building's historic form, features, and detailing as they have evolved over time.

A current "Evaluation of Condition and Recommendations Report" compiled by Preservation Consultant (Daniel C. Filippelli) and additional determi-

nations by M-NCPPC staff, have identified the following work is needed. Refer to the report by Daniel C. Filippelli dated April 18, 2010.

B. History

The Peace Cross monument was constructed in 1925 and dedicated on July 12, 1925. It is the work of John J. Earley who is considered to be a pioneer in "exposed aggregate" concrete construction in the first half of the 20th century. The monument project was initiated by the Snyder-Farmer-Butler Post #3 of the American Legion In memory of the Maryland veterans who lost their lives in World War I.

The construction drawings of this monument were apparently lost in a fire at the Earley Studio in Rosslyn, Virginia. There is little archival information about this monument other than news accounts of the dedication, letters concerning the relation of the Maryland State Roads Commission, transfer of responsibility to the local governments and assorted invoices for work planned and/or effected in 1961, and, again in 1985.

Records indicate repair to the monuments were obvious as early as 1961 but no evidence exists to verify any "actual" work occurred on the monument until 1985. A proposal from Moeller Air Compressor Service, Inc. to MNCPPC dated March 14, 1961 proposed "guniting the monument but no invoice or evidence exists to verify the work was completed. Moeller Air Compressor Service, Inc. also submitted an Invoice for "dimensions and tests" on May 17, 1961 noting the exact dimensions varied by 3" but not indicating what parts of the monument varied by this amount.

A ~~subsequent~~ proposal submitted by Earley Studio in 1961 included "to restore Peace Cross including a cap over top...bid includes removal of loose existing areas, patching, lathing and applying Earley mosaics to existing structure". This proposal indicatesd ~~that~~ the monument was delaminating in 1961 and water was infiltrating the structure from the top on the flat planes. No invoice is available to verify any work was completed by Earley Studio.

Another document by Eckington Scaffolding Co. in August, 1961 indicates that the monument was to be, scaffolded for repairs. There is, however, no further documentation in the files to confirm that any work actually occurred other than the Moeller Company measurements and tests. There is also, no documentation of the Moeller measurements and tests results.

The first documented repairs occurred in February 1985 by The Preservation Technology Group Ltd. They proposed a repair strategy based on "preliminary samples...presented to (MNCPPC)... and, recommendations for testing the existing masonry. The Preservation Technology Group, Ltd. subsequently submitted photographs "taken during the exploration of the interior cavity of the Peace Cross monument" and a sketch of the monument and the sites for investigative drilling to determine dimensions/construction of the monument. These are contained in an August 1, 1985 transmittal to MNCPPC. Apparently, Neal Eisenberg, a principal with Preservation Technology Group, Ltd., transferred to Universal Waterproofing Service, Inc. in Linden, New Jersey and undertook the actual restoration of the monument in August, 1985. An invoice

of October 7, 1985 lists the work that was undertaken by Universal. The work was completed by October 7, 1985 as confirmed in a letter from Neal Eisenberg M-NCPPC.

C. Field Observations

The monument is approximately 40 feet high and rests on a 15 ft. X 15 ft. plinth. The below grade dimensions are based on the sketch provided by Preservation Technology Group but have not been confirmed by this review.

The monument is situated within a traffic island at an intersection of three principal traffic commercial/commuter roadways. A major highway (Route 50) paws nearby to the east of the monument as well as a freight rail line. Industrial parks occupy areas to the immediate northeast and south east of the monument. Air borne pollutants from these activists are evidenced on the monument.

There is, in addition, the frequent use of deicing salts on the road interchange which easily splashes onto the island and the monument. The north side of the monument is approximately 20 feet from the road and 28 feet from the road on its south side. The grade

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
GREENBELT DIVISION

Civil Action No. 8:14-cv-550-DKC

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, ET AL.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION,

Defendant,

THE AMERICAN LEGION, et al.,

Defendant-Intervenors.

Filed May 5, 2015

30(b)(6) Deposition of MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK and PLANNING COMMISSION
Washington, D.C.
Wednesday, March 25, 2015
1:46 p.m.

THE WITNESS:
FREDERICK C. STACHURA

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* * *

Associates, being a structure engineer. I never saw what their proposal was, nor am I aware of any other proposals that came in from the solicitation, so I don't know.

Q Okay. And the email below from Ms. Stabler, she says, "we are assuming that any necessary work would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars." Do you have an understanding of what that would refer to?

A I believe Ms. Stabler was looking at what it would possibly be to do a complete restoration of the structure. And again this is not – this was not based on any firsthand knowledge that was available in my office, in our section.

Q Do you have an understanding of what such a complete restoration would entail?

A I'm not a cost estimator for such projects, nor am I a structural engineer, but I would imagine that to do a complete restoration according to the standards that are required would probably be in the range that Ms. Stabler refers to.

Q I'm going to show you what we will mark as

* * *

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY
REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: Peace Cross

Survey Number: PG: 69-16

Project: MD 450 @ CSX Crossing Bladensburg, Md

Agency: FHWA/SHA

Site visit by MHT Staff: X no ___ yes

Name _____

Date _____

Eligibility recommended X

Eligibility not recommended ___

Criteria: __A __B X C __D

Considerations: __A __B __C __D __E X F __G __None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

The Peace Cross, located at the intersection of MD 450 and US Route 1 in Bladensburg, Maryland, meets Criteria Consideration F and is eligible for the National Register under Criterion C. The Peace Cross, erected 1919 to 1925 as a monument to Prince George's County residents who lost their lives serving in the United States Armed Forces in World War I is significant as an expression of the post war era's shared perception of the noble character and valor of the veterans and their cause, In addition, it is significant as an example of the work of John J. Earley.

Beginning in 1916, John J. Earley (1881-1945) developed and refined the medium of "concrete mosaic" or exposed aggregate which in turn transformed the construction trade by allowing for factory fabrication of precast concrete building panels. Earley's career included the execution, and in some instances, design of notable buildings and monuments in the Washington area and throughout the country. Washington area examples include the "polychrome houses" in Silver Spring and Meridian Hill Park and the Shrine of the Sacred Heart in Washington, D.C. The Peace Cross, with its use of exposed aggregates of various colors, is an early example of the process which Earley developed and popularized.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project File, Maryland Inventory form PG 69-16, for Earley see also Frederick Cron, The Man Who Made Concrete Beautiful, Hans Hirz and Richard Stiner Washington Deco _____ Prepared by: Shirley Baltz, Lois Snyderman, & Susan Pearl (inventory form)

Elizabeth Hannold — Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

February 6, 1996 — Date

NR program concurrence: √ yes ___no ___not applicable

/s/ — Reviewer, NR Program

Feb. 13, 1996 — Date

HARVIN, TRACEY EMAIL

From: dcfip@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 20, 2014 9:08 PM
To: Stabler, Jennifer
Subject: Re: Peace Cross
Categories: PEACE CROSS ~ eDISCOVERY

Regarding Peace Cross. I believe my report described how it is known that the interior is hollow. I did not bodily enter the interior of the structure since this was already known from past repairs and, more importantly, from the techniques of John Early. The vents were removed as part of the investigation to determine wall thickness and more importantly the dimensions of potential air passages. Do you have all of my report??? Your questions lead me to believe you do not have all of it.

We did go out with an RFB to restore Peace Cross and that was issued by NHRD. I believe Anthony Nolan was the Director at the time the RFB was issued. The predators all came in with extremely high proposals with much duplication of effort within each proposal. Basically, just piling on in hopes of free money and no oversight. This was a non-starter within the budget constraints of MNCPPC at that time.

We need to talk about Addison cemetery and Kildaire, I will try to reach you by phone or you Can try me at 301-928-7678. Hope all is well.

ps. there was a big celebration of John Early's works by ACI last year. Quite a leader in advancing techniques of concrete work.

---Original Message

From: Stabler, Jennifer <Jennifer.Stabler @ppd.mncppc.org>
To: dcfip <dcfip@aol.com>
Sent: Wed, Aug 20, 2014 10:18 am
Subject: Peace Cross

Hi Daniel,

Ed Day is now acting assistant division chief for Natural and Historical Resources. He called Howard this morning and told him he might be able to get some CIP money for work on the Peace Cross. We found your report on the Peace Cross in the materials you gave to us. How were able to tell the structure was hollow? is there any way to access the inside other than from the vents that are shown on your plan? We are assuming that any necessary work would cost 100s of 1000s of dollars. Do you know of anyone who has the specialization to do that type of work?

Are you going to be up this way soon to do your semi-annual inspection of Kildare and Addison Cemetery? There is now a flurry of activity around the Addison Cemetery for construction of the casino.

Jennifer

Jennifer Stabler
Archeology Planner Coordinator
M-NCPPC Historic Preservation Section

14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
(Office) 301-952-5595
(Fax) 301-952-3799

From: dcfippaol.com [mailto:dcfip@aotcom]
Sent: Wednesday, December 18, 2013 3:33 PM

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

Case No. 8:14-cv-00550-DKC

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, FRED EDWORDS, BISHOP MCNEILL, AND STEVEN LOWE,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION,

Defendant.

DEPOSITION OF
KIRA CALM LEWIS
APRIL 9, 2015

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* * *

Q – I noticed you are orienting yourself.

A Yes.

Q Can you write something at the top of the document as you orient it so that we all know what it is, so that we're all looking in the same direction?

A Okay. (Witness does as requested.)

Q Okay. So in the center is a little – in the center of the picture is a little text box that says "cross."

A Mm-hmm, yes.

Q When you testified previously that there was a War of 1812 dedication –

A Yes. It was a monument dedication, yes.

Q – was that for the monument related to the 1814 Battle of Bladensburg?

A I believe that it is, yes.

Q So –

A It's the newest monument in the Memorial Park.

Q Okay. The monument dedication, can you describe to me where that was held on this Exhibit 2?

A As best I believe, it is just outside to the right of this photograph. I would estimate approximately where the words "Exhibit E" are actually on the paper. So right, I believe it's right here. No. Yep.

Q And is there a name for that area that you just described?

A It's inside the Memorial Park, but right now the name for the area is the War of 1812 Memorial.

Q And where was the 200th Star Spangled Celebration held?

A That event was quite large, and I believe it was held on the – mainly in the entire area of the Memorial Park; but a large portion of it was held at Bladensburg Waterfront Park, and then along the left side of this photograph, which would include the area that has the Korea-Vietnam, World War II, and 9/11 monuments.

Q So when you say "the whole park," am I understanding correctly that the whole area is not depicted on this photograph, correct?

A Yes.

* * *

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

Case No. 8:14-cv-00550-DKC

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, FRED EDWORDS, BISHOP MCNEILL, AND STEVEN LOWE,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION,

Defendant.

DEPOSITION OF
PHILIP BARTON ONDERDONK, JR.
MARCH 11, 2015

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* * *

Q * * * Is part of the American Legion's mission veterans and somebody wanted to take it down, would you support it?

A Yes.

Q And if there were a monument to Jewish veterans?

A Yes.

Q Can you think of an example of where the American Legion supported such a monument to atheist veterans or to Jewish veterans?

A The Mojave Cross case was put up by a lot of individuals – not the case but the cross – as a veter-

ans memorial to World War I. I don't know whether any of them were atheists or Jewish, but we have atheists and Jewish members.

I believe the Soledad Cross does show the Hebrew star.

I believe that answers it.

Q Okay. And the monument that's at issue in this case, can you describe it for me, please?

A I've seen pictures, that's the only way I can describe it.

Q Okay.

A It's a cross with the American Legion emblem at the juncation of the beams, I guess is the best way to say it, and it has the names of the soldiers from PG County, Maryland, who did in World War I inscribed on it.

* * *

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

Case No. 8:14-cv-00550-DKC

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, FRED EDWORDS, BISHOP MCNEILL, AND STEVEN LOWE,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION,

Defendant.

DEPOSITION OF
PHILLIP R. HOLDCRAFT
MARCH 12, 2015

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* * *

Q. What is post 3 American Legion?

A. It was a post that was part of the Department of in Maryland that was chartered through national. It would have been the third post chartered in Maryland. That's why it's called Post 3.

Q. And does it exist anymore?

A. No, it does not.

Q. Do you know when it ceased existing?

A. In 1991.

Q. And when did Post 131 begin existing?

A. I believe it was 1946. It was the date of our charter.

Q. So Post 131 and Post 3 coexisted for some years; is that correct?

A. That's correct.

Q. And did you know where Post 3 was located?

A. Post 3 did not have a post home.

Q. Do you know why?

A. No.

Q. Okay. Was Post 3 associated with any particular area of Maryland?

A. Hyattsville, I believe.

Q. Okay. Can you describe the Memorial Day events that you hold at the Veterans Park?

A. Memorial Day events are held over between the two flags, in between the World War I and the Vietnam Korea Memorial. We have a presentation of colors. The Star Spangle is played. The -- we have an invocation.

I announce that the meeting is beginning, the event is beginning. I turn it over to a representative of the town of Bladensburg, and they introduce their invitees or special people in the audience. Council, usually it's council, women and men of Bladensburg and Colman Manor, Cottage City, plus the mayors.

And then they turn it back over to me, and I will introduce the veterans represented there, the heads of veterans' organizations, VFW, American League, the Irish War veterans, the Post, the commanders or whoever their attendees are. Then the -- turn it back over to bladensburg, the town. They will introduce the mayor. Usually it's the major of Bladensburg.

He will give a speech relating to the veterans that passed on Memorial Day, or all veterans that have died. At that time, after he's done, it will be our guest speaker that the legion has designated or has -- is the guest speaker for the event.

Q. Okay,

A. And then then will read a speech. Then after that, we'll lay floral tributes in front of the different monuments, whoever brings one, we'll call them up, say the city of Cottage City, and they decide which memorial they want to put the floral wreath at.

Q. Do you know how they choose which memorial to lay the flower wreath at?

A. No.

Q. Do they lay the wreath at the World War I memorial?

A. Some have. Yes.

Q. You say some have. Do most not?

A. On Memorial Day, no.

Q. Okay.

A. Most do not. Then after the floral wreaths, because you interrupted me there.

Q. Oh, I am sorry.

A. After the floral wreaths, then we have -- we invite everybody back to the Post after the ending of the ceremony. We have benediction. Then we play the taps and retire the colors.

Q. And that concludes it?

A. And that concludes the ceremony.

Q. And does the chaplain deliver the invocation then – at the beginning and the benediction at the end?

A. If they are available.

Q. Okay. If they are not, who does?

A. It will either be the master of ceremonies for American Legion or another representative from the Legion.

Q. Okay. And you said mayors, plural. What mayors are involved in the events on Memorial Day?

A. The mayor of Bladensburg is always there. Then we've had the mayor of Colman Manor, and the mayor of Cottage City.

Q. Does there –

A. Which are all within a mile of one another.

Q. And do you consider that the Post sponsors the Memorial Day event?

A. Yes. That is our event.

Q. And –

A. That's the Legion's event.

Q. And does the town cosponsor it?

A. No. They are invitees. We invite them to participate.

Q. And are you familiar with a group or organization called the Bladensburg Patriotic Committee or Bladensburg Promotion Committee?

A. Yes.

Q. Can you tell me what that –

A. I'm familiar with one. I know of the other but I'm familiar with one.

Q. Would you tell me what it is?

A. The patriotic committee.

Q. Is there a patriotic committee and you believe that there's also a promotion committee?

A. I don't know whether that exists or not.

Q. Okay. And –

A. I, no, I don't know whether it is or not.

Q. Okay. The patriotic committee, is that associated with the town of Bladensburg?

A. I'm not quite sure. I understand the question. If it's a government entity, I'm not sure.

Q. If you don't know, just tell me you don't know.

A. I don't know.

Q. Okay. And then could you describe the Veterans Day events. Is there anything different with the Veterans Day events than what you described with the Memorial Day events?

A. The only things that's different is we do it in front of the World War I memorial. We do it in the median for Veterans Day.

Q. And why is that?

A. Tradition.

Q. And you said Memorial Day is held between the two flags? Is that – did I remember that correctly?

A. That's correct. That's where we set up the podium.

Q. And where in the median do you set up the podium for the Veterans Day events?

A. At the rear of the monument. In the sense that the plaque is on the front, If you look at it, if you

consider the front of the monument where the plaque is, then we do it in the rear.

Q. Okay.

A. Because that's where all the space is available.

Q. Yes. Okay. So am I understanding the Veterans Day also begins with an invocation?

A. Correct.

Q. And it concludes with a benediction?

A. That's correct.

Q. And does the chaplain typically deliver that invocation and that benediction?

A. The same holds true that if he's available, he does it. If not, then someone else from Post 131 will do it.

Q. And can you tell me who the current chaplain is?

A. It is a Warren Bradley.

Q. And does Mr. Bradley have a religious affiliation to your knowledge?

A. I don't know.

Q. Do you know the names of any previous chaplains?

A. Yes.

* * *

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

Case No. 8:14-cv-00550-DKC

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, FRED EDWORDS, BISHOP MCNEILL, AND STEVEN LOWE,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION,

Defendant.

DEPOSITION OF
G. KURT PIEHLER
MARCH 10, 2015

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* * *

A Well, the Commission as pretty explicit. They saw the United States as a Christian nation and they even put that in their minutes. They thought, as a Christian nation, it was perfectly – in fact, they sort of saw this – when protests were raised, as I discussed in my book, over the use of the cross in the chapels, they said this is they essentially ignored these protests from the Jewish Welfare Board, and they created no denominational marker. It was either a cross or Star of David. So in a sense they excluded those – there was a small – without going through every individual burial record, which haven't been digitized, there was a small Chinese

population here that was Buddhist that served in World War I and a small Japanese-American population. If you were a Buddhist or a Shinto, there was no – there was no – you either had a cross or a Star of David in an American overseas memorial.

Q So now let's talk about the Bladensburg memorial specifically. Have you ever visited the memorial in person?

A No, I have not. I've only seen visual images of it.

* * *

IN THE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
GREENBELT DIVISION

Case No. 8:14cv-14-550

AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION, ET AL.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK &
PLANNING COMMISSION,

Defendant,

THE AMERICAN LEGION, ET AL.,

Defendant-Intervenors,

Filed May 5, 2015

DECLARATION OF
JASON TORPY

I, Jason Torpy, hereby state and declare as follows:

1. I am President of the Military Association of Atheists & Freethinkers (MAAF), a national nonprofit organization supporting atheists and humanists in the military.

2. I am a prior Army enlisted person and officer, a West Point graduate, and an Iraq War veteran. I am an atheist and humanist and a member of the Plaintiff American Humanist Association.

3. MAAF was established as a nonprofit in 2006. Our members number over 4,000 active and prior military personnel serving all over the world in all branches of service and all war and interwar periods back to World War II. The vast majority of our members are non-theists, including atheists, humanists, agnostics and freethinkers.

4. Official military demographics show more self-identified "atheists" than any non-Christian denomination and more "humanists" than most Christian denominations in the military. Attached herein as Exhibit 1 is a true and accurate copy of the MAAF study of official Department of Defense demographic reports from 2002-2014, as shown on our website at the following URL: http://militaryatheists.org/demographics/ (last accessed April 14, 2015).

5. MAAF represents the voices of non-theistic service members and veterans.

6. When I look at the Bladensburg Cross at issue in this litigation, I see a Christian symbol. In fact, I see the primary and traditional symbol of Christianity: a Latin cross. This Christian symbol connotes the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. When used in a war memorial context, it suggests that all US military personnel sacrificed their lives in the same way Christians contend that Jesus Christ died for their sins. When applied to a government war memorial, I feel the government is promoting this idea that all US military personnel are Christian or that all US military personnel should adopt Christian values and beliefs.

7. The Bladensburg Cross is a giant Christian cross on government property. In my opinion, a

giant Christian cross cannot be mistaken for anything but a promotion of Christianity. I feel that anyone who suggests otherwise is disrespecting Christianity and its most recognizable holy symbol.

8. My military service, as well as the service of other non-Christians and that of members of the MAAF, is excluded and disrespected when a Christian cross is presented as a public memorial to defending America.

9. As a non-theist, the Bladensburg Cross on government property makes me feel marginalized and devalued as a U.S. citizen. The fact that the Bladensburg Cross purports to be a veteran's memorial makes these feelings of marginalization and stigmatization even worse. Not only do I see a large Christian symbol on government property, but I also see the government sending a message to me and my fellow non-Christian service members that our service is less important than the service of Christian military personnel. It communicates to me that Christian soldiers are worth remembering and honoring while non-Christian soldiers may just as well be forgotten. In a sense, I feel that the Bladensburg Cross is a slap in the face to all of us non-Christian service members who have risked our lives to serve this Country.

10. When the government, including the Town of Bladensburg, regularly sponsors Veterans Day and Memorial Day events at the Bladensburg Cross, it is a constant reminder that we, MAAF members and other non-Christian veterans, are outsiders and are unwelcome in the community. While MAAF members would gladly participate and attend ceremonial events in honor of veterans, I would not feel welcome

or comfortable at an event held at the Bladensburg Cross. To the contrary, I would feel very unwelcome. This is especially so considering the fact that the Veterans Day and Memorial Day events held at the Bladensburg Cross include prayers as part of the official ceremony.

11. The American Legion does not represent all American veterans or even a majority of them. Their preamble begins with "For God and Country" and this phrase is used on numerous American Legion publications. In addition, they have a document entitled "Our Pillars, Your Platform," which I interpret as an evangelical political platform. A true and accurate copy of the "Our Pillars, Your Platform," downloaded from the American Legion's official website, is attached herein as Exhibit 2.[1] Page 1 of the "Our Pillars, Your Platform" document, following the preamble, is a "Message from the Legion." The Message states in part: "Beyond these challenges, there are daily reminders that America's morals and cultural values are under siege. Activists aim to distort and twist the core values of patriotism, morality and religion that gave birth to our nation, under God. They aim to kick God out of our public squares, deem the destruction of the U.S. Flag an acceptable form of free speech and put political correctness ahead of moral integrity. Legionnaires support legal immigration and oppose illegal border crossings for reasons ranging from economic impact on veterans to national security." Above the signa-

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[1] Our Pillars, Your Platform, American Legion political platform, 2012, last accessed 4/14/2015 at http://www.legion.org/documents/pdf/pillars_platform.pdf

ture line are the words: "For God and Country." Page 18 of the document, under the "Americanism" section, states in part: "Immigration laws are defied. References to God on U.S. currency, in the Pledge of Allegiance and on public monuments have been challenged by a minority of voices whose vision for America is far different than that of our founding fathers. The American Legion is an organization dedicated to God and country, with a membership of military veterans who take deep pride in the U.S. Flag and all that it means." Page 19 of the document states in part: "The American Legion vigorously opposes attempts to strip the Boy Scouts of public support, sponsorship and facility space, due to the organization's membership or leadership criteria. The Scouts teach important skills, build character, and provide a healthy and wholesome outlet for young Americans. The organization should not be punished or persecuted for using the term 'God' in its oath, or for setting leadership restrictions based on a moral code that the majority of Americans endorse." Page 20 of the document states in part: "The American Legion is dedicated to combating the secular cleansing of our American heritage, performed through lawsuits that attack the Boy Scouts, the public display of the Ten Commandments and other symbols of America's religious history." (Exhibit 2).

12. In my opinion, the American Legion's frequent efforts to promote God and Christianity in government activities reflect biases that are invidious toward non-Christians and especially atheists and humanists. The American Legion has in this case prejudicially promoted the idea that Christian symbols and references express patriotism and respect for military service.

13. MAAF has no objection to the use of a cross as a symbol on a private shrine on private property. If a church or an American Legion post or another private organization chose to honor Christians above all other military personnel by prominently featuring a Christian cross in a memorial on their private property, such Christian favoritism would not be governmental. When government honors and remembers veterans, however, atheist and humanist veterans who have risked their lives for their country deserve to be included. Exclusion in memorials shows overt bias toward Christianity and also discourages non-Christian Americans from serving a nation that does not respect them. Potential enlistees tell me frequently that they are reluctant to serve the nation when they see the government promote Christianity in place of American values.

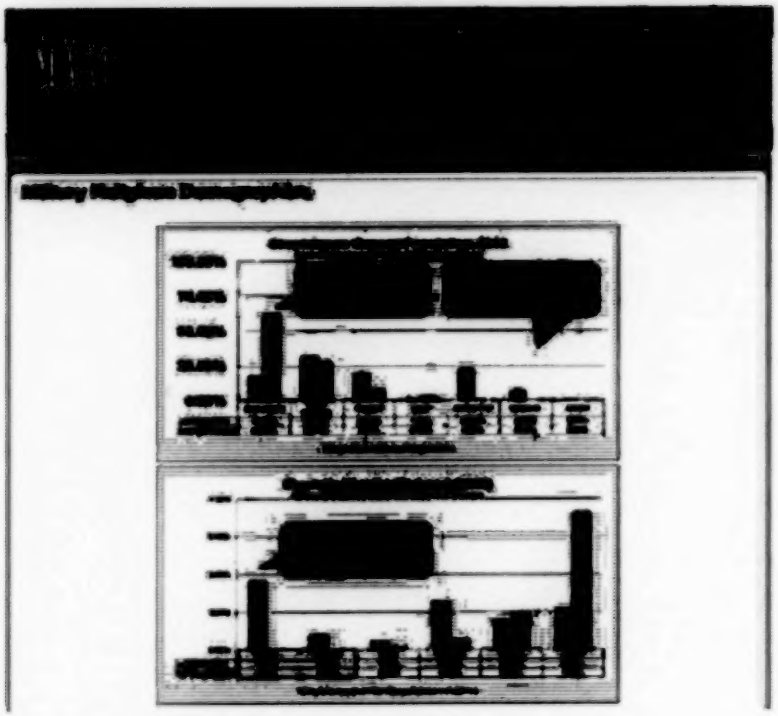
14. MAAF would like the Bladensburg Cross to be removed to an appropriate private location. If relocation is unfeasible, MAAF would like the Cross to be demolished or reconstructed as a monolith without religious symbolism that can honor all veterans.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on this day of April 17th, 2015.

/s/ Jason Torpy
Jason Torpy

TORPY EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT 1



MAAF conducted six-month efforts in 2009 and 2012 to gather and review data on religious preference and chaplain diversity in the military. At the outset of the chaplaincy in the 18th century and even for part of the 20th Century, it is fair to say that the military and its chaplains were almost uniformly Protestant. The modern military includes over 100 religious preferences both among the general popula-

tion and the chaplaincy, with the majority being Christian. These basic facts are well known, but specifics were hard to acquire.

MAAF has previous reports, including a 2002 Air Force study, and a 2004 study that included religious data. However, there were no truly comprehensive studies available, nor did they include studies of chaplain support, nor were they transparent with their data. MAAF solves these issues, providing a new study with raw data showing preferences of individual service members as well as chaplains. Our findings have been confirmed and expanded by other studies in the interim. Each of these studies are included below.

Viewing our nontheistic demographic in 2012, we found 0.5% self-identified as atheist or agnostic. While this may seem low, The Atheist religious preference was ahead of all responses except Christian or undetermined groups. The largest individual religious preference was No Religious Preference (see note below) at nearly 23% of the military. "Unknown" was the fifth-largest at 6.2%. After Twelve Christian selections (including two for no denomination), Atheist is in the #15 position. 88 different religious preferences, including 73 Christian denominations and all non-Christian denominations, fall below Atheist. We deserve and need support just as all service members do.

Chaplain support showed a Christian majority as expected, but the reality was that Christians fill nearly 97% of all chaplain billets while representing less than 70% of the general population. It seems that these Christian chaplains are especially willing to stand up for military service, and they should be

applauded for serving. It may also be that Christians are given special privileges in Chaplain accessions while others face regulatory challenges. In addition, most "minority" religious groups like and LDS are overrepresented, per-capita, in the chaplaincy. Catholics are underrepresented and enjoy special emphasis in recruiting and military media. Atheists and humanists have no dedicated chaplain support or even attention in chaplain training despite being a relatively large minority in the general population. MAAF seeks to do our part by endorsing humanist chaplains, if the military will accept candidates.

There were few major differences between the 2009 and 2012 studies. The major difference was that the 2012 study included all active, reserve, and national guard chaplains (4796 total) and the 2009 study included only Active Duty (2928). Comparison by percentage mitigates the issue. In addition, the Air Force admitted that they did not keep proper records of the endorsers of chaplains and provided religious preference (e.g., Presbyterian) rather than endorsing agency (e.g., Presbyterian Church of North America, Presbyterian Church USA or National Association of Evangelicals). These distinctions are significant. The Air Force reported 9 chaplains as "No Religious Preference". Obviously these chaplains have a preference or else they would lose their endorsement and their job as chaplains. They were listed as "Other" in the data set.

The major categories selected (Catholic, Christian, Other, None) are common in religious demographics studies except for "Evangelistic." This is not intended to be read as "Evangelicals." The concern among

many, including interfaith allies, is that the military and the chaplaincy is populated densely with Christians who may put conversion efforts ahead of their military duties. Endorsing agencies and denominations placed in this category appear to put a strong emphasis on the "Great Commission," a passage interpreted by some to mean that Christians should convert others to obey Christian laws regardless what civilian authority teaches. The "Evangelistic" category identifies denominations that may warrant increased oversight due to their stated ecclesiastical priorities to convert others.

MAAF invites endorsing agencies, especially those in the "Evangelistic" category, to sign onto the MAAF Minimum Statement of Support and to encourage chaplains to comply with our http://blog.militaryatheists.org/2011/10/open-letter-to-chaplains-from-humanists/">Open Letter to Chaplains. By showing support for atheists and humanists in the military, we can ensure equal treatment and move away from negative perceptions.

Note: No Religious Preference is the largest single demographic at nearly 23%. These personnel may be Christian, Catholic, Hindu, spiritual but not religious, atheist, or something else. Many Christian options are available, including non-denominational and general protestant, and there is no stigma against being Christian in today's military. However, the fears for atheists and humanists is significant influencing many to choose "No Religious Preference" rather than being "outed" as an atheist. Some try to identify as atheist and are told that they have to choose "No Religious Preference." Certainly the entire 23% is not comprised of atheist personnel, but

there is good reason to believe the majority of that number are nontheistic. In any case, NRP is an important demographic for chaplains to serve, most likely with something other than the chaplain's standard denominational services.

Demographic Studies

- 2012 MAAF Department of Defense Religious Preference and Chaplain Support Study (2012 data, published July 2012): MAAF 2012 DoD Religious Preference and Chaplain Study. The primary tab includes the chaplain population vs the general population and breakouts for minority communities. The other tabs include raw data and listings ordered by size. This also includes the 2010 data (which was gathered in 2009). This data should be reviewed only in the context of the commentary above and in the files themselves. Contact MAAF for questions or permission for special uses.
- 2010 MAAF Department of Defense Study version 2 (updated April 2011): Source Data. This is the basis of the commentary written above. See data image
- 2010 MAAF DoD Study v1 (January 2010): Presentation and Source Data and image 1 and image 2. Version 2 changes the approach by separating the atheist and no religious preference categories based on feedback from chaplains and endorsers. Minor errors were corrected and the text for this page was

reworked to better explain the results and purpose of the study.

- University of Chicago Study of religious beliefs around the world. Raw data tables
- The Military Leadership Diversity Commission reports a new Equal Opportunity survey indicating 25.5% No Religious Preference and 3.61% Humanist (equated with Atheist & Agnostic). View study here (Original Link was removed)
- The Population Reference Bureau, an independent, private data analysis agency, shows military atheists comprise more than 20% of the population: PRB Report
- Airforce 2002 enlisted and officer religious demographics

EXHIBIT 2

OUR PILLARS, YOUR PLATFORM

2012 Election Issues that Matter Most to the Nation's Largest Organization of Wartime Veterans

An American Legion Special Report

Preamble to The American Legion Constitution

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America

To maintain law and order

To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism

To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars

To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation

To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses

To make right the master of might

To promote peace and goodwill on earth

To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy

To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

A MESSAGE FROM THE LEGION

The national elections of 2012 come at a critical time for the United States, its veterans and citizens. The American Legion was formed for times like these. As our servicemen and women return from Iraq and Afghanistan, they are met with daunting challenges at home. These soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines are greeted by a dismal economy. They need jobs, business opportunities or education pathways that can propel them from military service to prosperous careers. They face these external challenges while making profound internal adjustments. At home, life no longer includes roadside bombs or rocket-propelled grenades. For many, the adjustment will be difficult. Some will bear the scars of war, visible or invisible, for the rest of their lives. It is imperative that we provide them compassionate, efficient and easily accessible health care. Because of their sacrifices on behalf of our nation, they have unique health-care needs, they qualify for benefits they earned and deserve, and our nation has a sacred obligation to help them.

Sadly, veterans are discovering the line for VA benefits is more than 900,000 applications long. These delayed case decisions affect those from the Greatest Generation to the current generation. Veterans who live in rural parts of the United States must travel hundreds of miles to see doctors, care for female veterans is only now beginning to match that of male veterans, and waiting times to see VA specialists are intolerably long in many parts of the country.

The Legion stands with VA in the mission to "care for him who has borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan." This means health care, timely decisions on claims, education, career opportunities, home loans and survivor benefits. The Legion works daily on behalf of veterans, military personnel and communities. Often, it takes patience, as with the passage last summer of the Veteran Skills to Jobs Act, which the Legion pushed for years. Sometimes, it takes agility, in the form of National Emergency Fund disaster relief for communities, or Temporary Financial Assistance for struggling military families with minor children.

Beyond these challenges, there are daily reminders that America's morals and cultural values are under siege. Activists aim to distort and twist the core values of patriotism, morality and religion that gave birth to our nation, under God. They aim to kick God out of our public squares, deem the destruction of the U.S. Flag an acceptable form of free speech and put political correctness ahead of moral integrity.

Legionnaires support legal immigration and oppose illegal border crossings for reasons ranging from economic impact on veterans to national security.

The American Legion, since its inception in 1919, has remained committed to four key pillars of advocacy and support: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation; National Security; Americanism and Children & Youth.

This report, "Our Pillars, Your Platform," is for election incumbents and challengers alike, voters and others who wish to learn more about The American Legion's positions on key national issues. As the largest organization of wartime veterans, the Le-

gion's voice is representative of more than 4 million veterans and patriotic Americans. These positions are guided by nearly 100 years of consistent advocacy and resolutions from the grassroots of the organization, local American Legion posts and veterans in every congressional district of America. This is a constituency that lobbies with principles, not pocketbooks, to improve our nation, which they have proven is worth fighting for.

For God and Country,

THE FOUR PILLARS

I. Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

- Access to VA Care
- Improved Claims Processing
- Better Funding Formula
- Support for Veterans with Special Needs
- Civilian Opportunities
- Education Benefits
- Employment and Business
- Eradication of Veteran Homelessness
- Proper Veteran Cemeteries

II. National Security

- The Global War on Terrorism
- Strong National Defense
- Protection of Defense Budget
- Military Quality of Life
- Homeland Security
- Foreign Affairs
- Full Accounting of POW/MIAs
- Illegal Immigration Enforcement
- Heroes to Hometowns

III. Americanism

- Flag Protection
- Citizenship
- Boy Scouts
- The Pledge of Allegiance

- Patriotic Holidays and Observances

IV. Children & Youth

- Child Pornography
- Catastrophic Illness
- Family Integrity
- Media Violence
- Drug Abuse
- Child Advocacy in Legal Issues

PILLAR 1: VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

For more than 90 years, the Legion has been the nation's leading advocate for proper health care and earned benefits for America's veterans. The Legion was instrumental in creating the Veterans Administration in 1930, and an ardent supporter of its rise to Cabinet status when it became the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in 1989. As the relationship between VA and veterans evolves, the Legion will help VA meet its critical mission.

As it has for decades, the Legion continues to aggressively lobby for adequate funding of the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), to provide timely access to quality health care. Additionally, the Legion seeks to ensure fair rulings on claims and other earned veterans benefits for those who have service-connected injuries and illnesses. A nationwide network of more than 2,500 American Legion accredited service officers and other professional staff works diligently to assist veterans in obtaining the benefits and care they have earned and deserve through VHA, the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) and the National Cemetery Administration.

Today, as the number of discharged veterans from operations Iraqi Freedom (OIF), Enduring Freedom (OEF) and New Dawn (OND) surpasses 1.2 million, the Legion's congressionally chartered role to support them could not be more relevant. However, the Legion also strongly believes that a veteran is a veteran, regardless of war era or location of service. In this way, the Legion is the only organization that works on behalf of about 23 million U.S. veterans alive today.

The Legion has tens of thousands of members who volunteer nearly a million hours annually in VA facilities to help their fellow veterans navigate the VA system (saving the department about $20 million per year).

The Legion stands on the front line of change for veterans through its pillar of service called Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R). VA&R's top priorities are to:

Protect VA from Budget Reductions

Last year's failure of the congressional "supercommittee" means that automatic spending cuts, known as sequestration, are scheduled to take effect in January 2013, unless Congress finds other options for federal budget reductions. Although the Obama administration has said all programs administered by VA (including veterans' medical care) are exempt from sequestration, the Legion is concerned that VA's federal administrative expenses are not covered. This lapse has the potential to affect the care that our veterans need and deserve. Hundreds of thousands of our men and women who served in Iraq and Afghanistan are now relying on VA for their health care, as are our older veterans. The administration and members of Congress must make sure that VA's entire budget is protected from the effects of sequestration.

Boost VA Construction Projects

The Legion is profoundly disappointed that VA construction, both major and minor, is woefully underfunded. This failure to provide adequate, safe and up-to-date medical treatment facilities affects thousands of veterans. VA's Strategic Capital Investment Planning (SCIP) program has identified

gaps in space, access, workload, safety, security, and other areas that can be fixed with construction projects, maintenance, enhanced-use leasing (EUL) or other methods.

When SCIP was launched, it identified 4,808 capital projects to be corrected over a 10-year period, costing between $53 billion and $65 billion. In its first year, the program was not adequately funded to correct deficiencies within the time allotted. Now - using estimates for current construction needs and maintenance - the Legion expects it will take VA 60 years to close construction gaps at current funding rates.

Additionally, VA is not able to engage in EULs because Congress did not reauthorize such privileges in November 2011. Without EULs, VA is unable to meet its construction needs or the Building Utilization Review and Repurposing (BURR) initiative. The BURR initiative was developed to meet the needs of homeless veterans. More than 100 properties were identified as potential locations for transitional housing.

The Legion backs a fully funded SCIP program, and reauthorization of the VA to engage in EULs, provided it follows a priority list set by Congress. This list can include homelessness, women veterans, mental health, geriatric care and adaptive sports.

Stop Denying VA Health Care

Veterans with certain demographic characteristics are now denied VA health care. The continued budget-driven suspension of Priority Group 8 veterans from new enrollment in the VA health-care system defies the spirit and intention of the Veterans Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996. The

Legion believes that any eligible veteran should be able to enroll in the VA health-care system.

Speed Up Delivery of Electronic Health Records

DoD and VA have multiple programs designed to help servicemembers transition to veteran status and receive their earned benefits. Of 1.2 million OEF/OIF/ OND veterans who are eligible for VA health care, only about half are enrolled.

The Legion urges our nation's leadership to speed up implementation of the Integrated Electronic Health Record (iEHR), currently scheduled for completion by 2017. Failure to implement iEHR has caused significant delays in veterans' transition because VA treatment teams do not have full access to DoD health records. The Legion also advocates for the dissemination of VA benefits information at all military transition and access points, including Transition Assistance Program (TAP) briefings.

Reduce Delays in Integrated Disability Evaluation System

The Legion has a Medical Evaluation Board/Physical Evaluation Board (MEB/PEB) coordinator on staff, responsible for assisting servicemembers at Washington, D.C., military installations. The Legion also has MEB/PEB representatives at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., who are supervised by the MEB/PEB coordinator.

As of January 2012, about 24,000 servicemembers were participating in the Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES) across all branches of service, including National Guard and reserve units.

The Legion provides appeal assistance to servicemembers through all phases of the IDES process, including representation at formal hearing boards.

Currently, it takes servicemembers an average of 374 days to process through the IDES program. The Legion recommends that:

- DoD adheres to VA ratings, rather than using them only as guidelines.
- The program is implemented uniformly across services and geographic regions.
- A clear and concise explanation of the IDES program is provided to the service-member and immediate family upon consideration of a medical evaluation board.
- The Physical Evaluation Board Liaison strictly adheres to the scope of responsibilities.
- Caregivers of seriously ill or injured servicemembers/veterans are provided single points of contact for any assistance regarding the patient's health and welfare.

Improve Access to Health Care in Rural Areas

From October 2011 to March 2012, The American Legion's System Worth Saving (SWS) Task Force conducted a series of visits to VA medical centers, to evaluate the challenges veterans living in rural areas face with their VA health care. Two major concerns are VA's definition of "rural veteran," and its trans-

portation network, which assists veterans traveling to and from medical appointments.

First, VA currently uses the Census Bureau's definition of "rural", which means, for instance, that if a veteran lives in a rural area but also lives close to a VA medical facility, then he or she is not considered a rural veteran. VA's current definition does not take travel time and distance into consideration. This is problematic because many veterans are incapable of driving long distances; nor do they have proper transportation to navigate the rough terrain in rural areas.

The Legion recommends that VA broaden the Census Bureau's definition to incorporate access and driving times to its facilities. Using this new definition would assist in understanding the needs of a newly structured Veterans Transportation Network.

Secondly, in highly rural areas, many veterans live hours away from their local VA facilities; therefore, voluntary transportation has been a key component in rural health care. Currently, most VA medical centers offer volunteer transportation services, which can be unreliable.

The Legion recommends that VA medical centers implement a Veterans Transportation Department. Under this plan, drivers would be paid employees (in addition to volunteers). Such a program could ensure not only reliable transportation, but also create incentives and jobs for drivers. The full SWS Rural Health Care Report is available at www.legion.org.

Address Environmental Exposure Issues

Servicemembers have often been afflicted with illnesses related to environmental exposure, which may be caused by direct contact, testing, storage, or transportation of toxic materials, such as dioxins located in herbicides or the burn pits in Afghanistan, Iraq and even stateside. These hazards lead to lifelong complications and can even be passed on to future generations. (For example, spina bifida has been linked to Agent Orange exposure.) The American Legion urges VA to include the C-123K Provider military transport used in the Vietnam War on its presumptive list for Agent Orange locations. Additionally, the Legion wants DoD to disclose all locations of environmental hazards so that research can be conducted on the effects to servicemembers. These sites would also include stateside facilities that eliminate, test or store contaminants. The Legion also wants to extend indefinitely the presumptive period for Gulf War illnesses due to the unknown effects of service in current conflicts.

Increase Staffing Levels to Reduce VA Claims Backlog

One of VA's most difficult challenges is providing quality decisions in a timely manner as the number of cases increases. The veteran population in fiscal year 2011 was about 22.7 million, with more than 3.3 million receiving disability compensation benefits. In the majority of those cases, the claims processed by VBA's 56 regional offices involve multiple issues that are legally and medically complex, and time-consuming to adjudicate.

As of May 25, 2012, there were 904,624 claims pending in VBA; of those, 869,083 were claims pend-

ing for compensation and pension, and 563,457 (64.8 percent) were in backlog, pending for more than 125 days. There were also 255,925 appeals pending at VA regional offices. As of March 2012, the average number of days to complete a claim from date of receipt was 240.7 days (in contrast, VA's goal is 80 days).

There has been a steady increase in VA's pending claims backlog since FY 2008, when there were 397,000. At the end of FY 2009, there were more than 563,000 rating cases pending, which increased to about 849,000 in FY 2011.

As of March 2012, VA's accuracy of rating claims averaged 86.1 percent. The reported accuracy for rating claims in a three-month period averaged 87 percent, but falls to 65.8 percent accuracy for claims pending more than 125 days. Inadequate staffing levels, lack of continuing education and increased pressure to make quick decisions result in an overall decrease in the quality of work. These are among the most common complaints raised by VA employees interviewed by Legion staff during regional office quality checks.

It is an extreme disservice to veterans, not to mention unrealistic, to expect VA to continue to process an ever-increasing workload, yet still maintain quality and timeliness with current staff levels. VA has an excellent opportunity to seek returning veterans, especially those with service-connected disabilities, for employment opportunities within VBA. Despite recent hiring initiatives, regional offices will need more personnel, given current and projected workload demands.

Expand Veterans Treatment Courts

Some veterans are not accessing quality health care after combat and are at risk of entering the criminal justice system, where they could face charges stemming from medical issues. Veterans treatment courts, similar to drug and mental-health courts, were developed in 2008 to help veterans avoid incarceration or establishing a criminal record. They ensure that veterans who have entered the criminal justice system receive specific federal, state and county benefits to help in their rehabilitation. However, if a veteran fails to comply with the treatment plan, the original sentence is reinstated.

Today, there are more than 90 veteran treatment courts established across the country, with more added every month. The Legion urges Congress to continue to fund the establishment and expansion of these courts. The Legion also urges VHA and VBA to participate in these courts. VA representatives would be working alongside more than 2,500 American Legion service officers to help veterans gain access to health care and file for their benefits.

Increase Funding for National Cemetery Administration

The National Cemetery Administration (NCA) is currently made up of 131 cemeteries. According to an independent survey, NCA ranked first for performance among government and private entities four consecutive times in the last 10 years. NCA's best practices should be replicated across other federal agencies.

NCA has a plan to address the decreasing space available at current cemeteries due to the number of World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War veter-

ans who are passing away. NCA also intends to expand into new locations, so that families will not have to drive more than 75 miles to visit their loved ones. To do so, the Legion urges Congress to fully fund NCA at $250 million for major and minor construction at the national and state cemetery levels. This amount would give NCA the financial support necessary to make all adjustments and meet future demands.

Also, the Legion is concerned with the eligibility and monetary awards for the burial plot allowance. The Legion urges Congress to support a bill to return the burial plot allowance to all veterans who served during a time of war or conflict.

SYSTEM WORTH SAVING

The American Legion's primary health-care evaluation tool is the System Worth Saving (SWS) program. The mission of SWS is to assess the quality and timeliness of veterans health care, and to collect feedback from veterans on their level of care. Every six months, the SWS task force conducts 20 to 30 site visits to VA medical centers, focusing on one primary health-care issue, such as the quality of health care for veterans in rural areas. The Legion believes the program clearly identifies unique demands facing the VA health care system, as it continues to meet the obligations that President Abraham Lincoln spoke of in his second inaugural address: "To care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan."

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY AND POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER

American servicemembers are returning home in unprecedented numbers with varying levels of traumatic brain injury (TBI) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Within the military and veterans communities, there is a growing concern about the best practices and types of treatment that are being used. In response, The American Legion approved Resolution 13 in October 2010 for the creation of an ad hoc committee on TBI and PTSD.

The ad hoc committee was created "to investigate the existing science and procedures, as well as alternative methods, for treating TBI and PTSD not currently being employed by the Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs, for the

purpose of determining if such alternative treatments are practical and efficacious." The committee has held six meetings since its inception, receiving several presentations from leading DoD and VA clinicians on research and treatments, and hearing from veterans about their own personal experiences with TBI and PTSD. The ad hoc committee's final report should be available this fall; its findings and recommendations will be presented to the administration, members of Congress and DoD/VA senior leadership.

REGIONAL OFFICE ACTION REVIEW

The American Legion's Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R) Division operates the Regional Office Action Review (ROAR) program, conducting about eight site visits per year to VA regional offices. The purpose of the ROAR visits is to evaluate the quality of disability claims processing at each office, identify strengths and challenges, brief VA staff on findings, and recommend specific strategies for improvement. This is a key initiative, stemming from the incredible backlog of cases – more than 900,000 – that frequently delays treatment.

During the visits, ROAR teams review about 50 disability claims, meet with key staff members and interview random VA employees about staffing, training and workload. The ROAR teams look specifically at claims to see how they were handled and whether the information was accurately recorded.

The ROAR team provides a brief synopsis for each claim that is reviewed, indicating which areas the regional office is excelling in, and identifying areas for improvement.

THE LEGION'S NETWORK OF SERVICE OFFICERS

The American Legion maintains an extensive network of more than 2,500 professionally accredited department service officers, who are officially recognized by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide representation and assistance to veterans and their dependents. Their services are provided free of charge, regardless of whether a veteran belongs to the Legion. Service officers are located in

all 56 VA Regional Offices and in many counties across the country. (Veterans can search for nearby DSOs by going to www.legion.org.)

The Legion also maintains fully staffed offices of professional appeals representatives at VA's Board of Veterans' Appeals and at the Appeals Management Center. National appeals representatives at these offices provide direct representation to veterans and survivors whose claims are initially denied by regional offices.

The Legion also works with the National Veterans Legal Services Program, a non-profit law firm and consultant to the Legion, and the Veterans Consortium to ensure that Legion-represented claims denied by the BVA have access to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

The American Legion National Headquarters conducts a rigorous schedule of training and accreditation for service officers, including two training schools a year, the distribution of numerous bulletins and other documents, along with other forms of direct training and support at the state and local levels.

AN EMPHASIS ON JOBS AND EDUCATION

Servicemen and women delay career advancements and college educations to serve our country. Often those same men and women return to civilian life as veterans with physical disabilities or personal problems and face daunting transitions back to the workforce or higher education. The American Legion's Economic Division, a major part of the Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation pillar, works to improve the civilian lives of veterans in numerous ways, including support for:

Employment

The Legion continues to be a leading voice in the fight to improve employment opportunities for veterans and their families. The Legion understands that the private sector must be engaged, educated and encouraged to improve their hiring practices. The federal government must also continue to push its veterans-hiring initiatives to achieve meaningful results at all levels. In addition, the executive branch must direct effective improvements in hiring practices at all federal agencies. The legislative branch must continue its efforts to improve laws that significantly affect veteran employment, while providing adequate funding for employment programs and services that assist veterans and their families in obtaining gainful employment.

Veterans Employment And Training Service (VETS)

The Department of Labor's VETS program offers employment and training services to eligible veterans through its Jobs for Veterans state grants program. The mission of VETS is to promote the eco-

nomic security of America's veterans. The Legion is eager to see this program grow, and would like to see greater expansion of entrepreneurial, self-employment opportunity training. Such services will continue to be crucial as today's active-duty servicemembers, especially those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, transition into the civilian workforce. Adequate funding will allow the programs to increase staffing to provide comprehensive case-management job assistance to disabled and other eligible veterans. For the VETS program to assist these veterans to achieve their goals, it needs to:

- Implement recent reforms to the Transition Assistance Program (TAP), so that veterans can be better informed on education, employment and business opportunities as they transition into the civilian workforce.
- Expand outreach efforts with creative initiatives designed to improve employment and training services for veterans.
- Provide information on identifying military occupations that provide qualifying training for required licenses, certificates or other credentials at the local, state, or national levels.
- Eliminate barriers to recently separated servicemembers, and assist in the transition from military service to the civilian labor market.

The Legion believes staffing levels for the Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) and Local Veterans' Employment Representatives (LVER) should match the needs of the veterans community in each state and should not be based solely on the fiscal needs of the state government. Therefore, the Legion believes that VETS should remain a national program with federal oversight and accountability. Additionally, the Legion seeks legislation that will transfer all DVOPs and LVERs from the state agencies to VETS for supervision and oversight to ensure that the individuals employed to serve veterans are not used for other programs.

Work Opportunity Tax Credits

One measure that has provided incentives for bringing veterans into the civilian workforce is the use of tax credits for businesses that hire veterans. The Legion continues its support for Work Opportunity Tax Credits provided to employers under the VOW ACT of 2011.

Keystone XL Pipeline

The Keystone XL pipeline is the proposed 1,661-mile expansion of the existing Keystone pipeline system, running from Canada through the midwestern and southern United States. While the current pipeline has terminus points in Patoka, Ill., and Cushing, Okla., the proposed extension would lay new pipe from Hardisty, Canada, to Steele City, Kan., and from Cushing to Port Arthur, Texas, and Houston.

The United States consumes 19 million barrels of oil every day and imports more than 12 million barrels per day. Consequently, a secure supply of crude oil from our ally in Canada, rather than reli-

ance on imported oil from more volatile parts of the world, is critical to our national energy security. More importantly, Canada has indicated that if it cannot build a pipeline to sell its crude oil to the United States, it would build a pipeline westward to export oil to China. Thus, construction of this pipeline is of vital importance to our national security.

The Legion is concerned about the thousands of American veterans from past conflicts, as well as Iraq and Afghanistan, who are currently unemployed. The Keystone XL pipeline will provide jobs for veterans. TransCanada, the company behind the project, estimates that, once the United States regulatory review process is concluded, it could put 13,000 Americans to work. Pipe fitters, welders, mechanics, electricians, heavy equipment operators and other types of skilled labor would be employed on the pipeline. Additionally, about 7,000 manufacturing jobs would be created across the country. Furthermore, local businesses along the pipeline's path would benefit from about 118,000 jobs the pipeline will create through increased business for local goods and services.

The Keystone pipeline system will play an important role in linking a secure supply of Canadian crude oil to U.S. refining markets, significantly improving the North American oil energy supply and generating thousands of jobs for Americans. The Legion believes this project must be approved now and supports legislative efforts to get construction started.

Education

Since the Post-9/11 GI Bill went into effect in August 2009, there has been dramatic growth in the

number of beneficiaries and benefits payments for study at post-secondary institutions. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) supports more than 800,000 students through its education benefits programs, and the Department of Defense (DoD) assisted nearly 400,000 through its Tuition Assistance Program.

Increasing scrutiny of post-secondary institutions from veteran service organizations and lawmakers focused on unsatisfactory veteran graduation rates, recruiting practices, transferability of credits and lack of accountability.

Lawmakers should recognize the need to educate prospective student-veterans and their families on what to look for when choosing a college or university. Policymakers should also review and readdress the creation of relevant and useful data collection points in the federal Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) when the law is reviewed for reauthorization.

The GI Bill is an important investment which, if squandered due to unscrupulous practices on the part of some institutions of higher learning, could leave servicemembers, veterans and their families with diminished hopes of obtaining gainful employment once they leave the military. There is a significant gap between the promise and delivery of higher education, which, unless bridged, will constrain our economic growth and squander one of this nation's greatest assets - America's servicemembers, veterans and their families.

Small Business

The American Legion views small business as the backbone of the American economy. Small business

owners are the mobilizing force behind America's past economic growth, and will continue to be a major factor as we move through the current economic slowdown. There are 27 million small businesses in the country, accounting for 99.7 percent of all firms. Reports show that businesses with fewer than 20 employees represent 90 percent of all U.S. firms and are responsible for more than 75 percent of all new jobs. Small businesses generated $993 billion in income in 2006, and employed 58.6 million people.

To help ease the credit crisis for small businesses, the Legion urges Congress to establish a direct lending program through the Small Business Administration (SBA). This effort would offer low-interest loans to otherwise healthy veteran-owned and service-disabled veteran-owned businesses that are having trouble obtaining the credit they need for necessary operating expenses or expansion. In addition, the Legion seeks and supports legislation to require a 5 percent goal, with set-asides and sole-source authority for federal procurements and contracts for businesses owned and operated by service-disabled veterans and businesses owned by veterans. This includes small businesses owned by reservists and National Guard members who have been or may be called to active duty, or may be affected by base closings and other military reductions.

The Legion notes that pressures being exerted on the federal contracting community will likely result in greater use of the General Services Administration's Federal Supply Schedule Program. While this program holds a higher contracting preference compared to the small-business programs, it unfor-

tunately does not allow set-asides for any small business group. The Legion believes that expanded use of this program will further diminish opportunities for small businesses, especially those owned by veterans. The Legion recommends that:

- Service-disabled, veteran-owned small business (SDVOSB) set-asides should be allowed under the Federal Supply Schedule Program. Without this change, SDVOSBs are limited in their quest for small business opportunities to compete for federal contracts.
- Implementation of a coordinated, standardized training program for procurement staff that focuses on SDVOSB procurement strategies in their respective agency.
- The president should reissue Executive Order 13-360 "Providing Opportunities for Service-Disabled Veteran Businesses" to increase federal contracting and subcontracting opportunities for veterans, and require that its tenets be incorporated into SBA regulations and standard operating procedures.
- SBA needs to emphasize Executive Order 13-360 and establish it as a procurement priority across the federal sector. Federal agencies need to be held accountable

by SBA for implementing the executive order, and SBA needs to establish a means to monitor agencies' progress and, where appropriate, establish reports to identify those that are not in compliance, and pursue ongoing follow-up.

- To achieve the mandates of Executive Order 13-360, SBA must assist federal agencies to develop a strategic plan that is quantifiable, and will assist them in establishing realistic reporting criteria.
- The House Small Business Committee should embrace and promote development of stronger policy and legislative language that champions the use of veteran-owned small business joint-venturing as a ready solution to the small business spending requirements of the stimulus spending initiative.
- Hold the leadership of federal agencies responsible for meeting the congressionally mandated goal of assigning annually 3 percent of federal contracting dollars to SDVOSBs. We recommend the committee schedule a hearing with all federal agencies that consistently do not meet their

federal procurement goals with SDVOSBs.

Veterans Homelessness

To fully implement VA's pledge to end homelessness among veterans by 2015, Congress must continue making responsible investments in affordable housing and supportive services programs that move veterans and their families off the streets and into stable housing.

VA's homeless assistance programs are intended to serve all groups of low-income veterans: those who are at risk of becoming homeless or being homeless for a short time, and those with families who have spent years without a place to call home. To make this seamless system of care work, The American Legion recommends that funding be provided for a broad range of suitable and effective interventions, including:

- Congress should appropriate additional funds for the Supportive Services for Veteran Families program (SSVF). SSVF funds have been used effectively by community organizations to prevent many veterans from becoming homeless, and to quickly rehouse veterans who only need short-term rental assistance and limited case management to get back on their feet. SSVF funds can also be used to pay for employment services, utility assistance, child-care costs and other housing-related expenses.

- Congress should continue its support for the Homeless Veterans Grant and Per Diem transitional housing program. This critical program provides short-term housing assistance to homeless veterans, allowing them to get connected with jobs, supportive services, more permanent housing, and ultimately to become self-sufficient. Promising new models for using grant and per diem (GPD) funds, including allowing veterans to remain in their GPD housing units after support from the program ends, and new programs focused on women veterans. These models are helping to ensure that GPD continues to meet the changing needs of returning veterans and their families.
- Congress should provide 10,000 new HUD–VASH vouchers designed to serve homeless veterans - and, in many cases, their families - who will need long-term housing coupled with intensive case management and supportive services. Since 2008, a total of 37,975 vouchers have been awarded, contributing substantially to major reductions in veterans homelessness.

The American Legion continues to take on a leadership role within local communities through volunteering, fundraising, and advocating for programs and funding for homeless veterans. In addition, the Legion has provided housing for homeless veterans and their families (for example, in the Legion departments of Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Connecticut). One of the Legion's goals is to help bring federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, faith-based institutions and other stakeholders to the table to discuss best practices and funding opportunities for homeless veterans. They and their families need to obtain necessary care and help to properly transition from streets and shelters to gainful employment and independent living.

CAREER FAIRS

The American Legion has been working with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce on an initiative to reduce unemployment among veterans. By pooling resources with the Department of Labor, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) and various corporate sponsors, the Legion is hosting more than 200 veteran-specific job fairs across the nation in 2012 and 2013.

The "Hiring our Heroes" program focuses on smaller but more frequent career fairs in under-served rural or previously inaccessible sections of the country. This program takes advantage of the large footprint American Legion posts have throughout the nation, including many in rural areas that are ideal venues for these events.

CREDENTIALING BOOSTS JOB PROSPECTS

The Department of Defense provides some of the best vocational training in the country for military personnel. Many occupational career fields in the armed forces easily translate into the civilian workforce. However, there are many civilian occupations that require licenses or certification. Every year, skilled servicemembers leaving active duty miss out on the chance to quickly move into good, high-paying, career-building jobs because they must undergo lengthy and expensive retraining to meet civilian licensing and certification requirements. Often, such retraining is for the same type of jobs they held in the military. This situation forces veterans into under-employment, hampers businesses because skilled workers are unavailable, and stunts the

economy due to delayed job creation and limited consumer spending.

Since the release of The American Legion's landmark 1997 study on civilian licensure and certification for veterans, the organization has consistently distinguished itself as a respected and thoughtful voice for improving the employment prospects of veterans through better understanding and use of professional certification. These efforts are finally paying off. In the last few years, there has been a major culture shift in the military, which once believed that making it easier for troops to get jobs in the private sector would reduce retention and hurt the armed forces. Now, an expanded credentialing program has widespread support on Capitol Hill and from many top defense officials.

For example, Congress passed the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011 that requires the Department of Labor to take a hard look at how to translate military skills and training to private-sector jobs, and will work to make it easier to get the licenses and certifications our veterans need. Congress also passed the Veteran Skills to Jobs Act of 2012, which directs the head of each federal department and agency to treat relevant military training as sufficient to satisfy training or certification requirements for federal licenses. The Department of Defense has established a Military Credentialing and Licensing Task Force. This group will focus its initial efforts on industries that need more skilled workers and stand to benefit from military expertise and training, including manufacturing, first responders, health care, information technology, transportation and logistics. Within one year, the task force is expected

to (1) identify military specialties that readily transfer to high-demand jobs; (2) work with civilian credentialing and licensing associations to address gaps between military training programs and credentialing or licensing requirements; and (3) provide servicemembers with greater access to certification and licensing exams.

The federal government plays only a limited role in the certification and licensing arena. The private sector and state/local governments play a much larger role, issuing worker credentials that affect far more occupations and workers than federal agencies. To make the largest impact possible for veterans, all parties involved in credentialing must be included - not only federal and state governments, and all branches of the military, but the business community, technical schools, community colleges and professional, business and association certifying entities.

Nevertheless, the federal government is uniquely situated and obligated to take the lead on this issue, not only to overcome outdated attitudes, but to set an example for state and local government agencies that grant occupational licenses and set certain professional standards.

Done properly, these initiatives will help ensure that specialized military training received by our men and women in uniform meets civilian standards for credentialing and licensing. This will save money for the federal government and give the private sector a fully qualified, job-ready workforce. The American Legion encourages initiatives that build upon and accelerate efforts to put returning veterans to work, using skills developed in the military, and

stands ready to assist all parties to succeed in this process.

Better Services for Female Veterans

The concerns of female veterans have always been a high priority for The American Legion. And now that women are forced into combat roles in areas that lack clearly defined battle lines, they are returning home with the same injuries and wounds as male veterans - yet they have unique concerns about how the existing VA healthcare system is adapting to their needs.

These women are bringing home challenges requiring gender-specific expertise and care. According to a 2011 analysis by researchers Paula Schnurr and Carole Lunney, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is especially prevalent among women. For example, 10.2 percent of women who used VA facilities in 2009 were diagnosed with PTSD, compared with only 7.8 percent of men.

Overall, of the 1.8 million female veterans in America, about 337,000 are enrolled in the VA health-care system. The proportion of female VA enrollees, according to the Department of Health and Human Services, is expected to increase this decade until one in every 12 will be female.

Currently, 44 percent of Iraq and Afghanistan female veterans have enrolled in the VA system. As this segment of the veterans population continues to expand, it has become increasingly clear that the concerns of women require further analysis to ensure their needs are met in the same manner their male counterparts have already come to expect.

In January 2011, The American Legion launched a landmark survey to gauge the health-care concerns of women veterans to determine whether the VA was meeting their needs. The study surveyed 3,012

female veterans to better understand their healthcare needs. The survey consisted of 67 questions, designed to measure the following 10 attributes of service quality: (1) tangibles, (2) reliability, (3) responsiveness, (4) competence, (5) courtesy, (6) communication, (7) credibility, (8) security, (9) access, and (10) understanding/knowing the customer. The survey found widespread dissatisfaction in health-care services among women veterans.

Only 42 percent of respondents were satisfied with the screening process for military sexual trauma (MST). This is particularly troubling when some sources report that one in three women on active duty is likely to have experienced some level of MST. One study reported that distress associated with sexual trauma among female veterans was four times more likely than duty-related stress associated with PTSD. This startling concern merits immediate attention. The American Legion recommends that VA conduct a comprehensive study of MST – in conjunction with the Department of Defense, if possible – to develop a better plan to counteract this widespread problem.

Other findings included:

- Almost 25 percent of the respondents rated the convenience of the location of VA facilities for women-specific issues as poor, indicating that gender-specific care is difficult to obtain for many female veterans.
- Almost 57 percent of respondents were satisfied with the reliability of health care provided by VA

when compared to private health-care providers.

- More than three in 10 were dissatisfied when they compared the responsiveness of VA to that of private health-care providers. This is a theme that occurs throughout the survey results.
- Over 25 percent of respondents expressed a level of dissatisfaction for security, which suggests there is room for improvement, especially when it comes to a patient's personal information.
- Nearly one-third indicated they were dissatisfied with their most recent experiences with women veterans program managers, suggesting there is room for significant improvement in the capabilities of VA to provide gender-specific services.

VA needs to develop a comprehensive picture of women's health that extends beyond reproductive issues. Provider education needs improvement. Furthermore, as female veterans are often the sole caregivers in families, services and benefits designed to promote independent living for combat-injured veterans must be evaluated, and needs such as child care must be factored into the equation. Many female veterans cannot make appointments, due to the lack of child-care options available within VA medical centers. Since conducting the survey, the Legion has continued to advocate for improvements

in the delivery of timely and high-quality health care for female veterans. During the System Worth Saving (SWS) site visits, task force members have asked medical staff at VA facilities about their women veterans programs and shared areas of concern.

The American Legion will continue to make recommendations to the administration, Congress and VA on how women veterans programs can be more effectively supported. One primary role of the Legion's female veterans outreach coordinator is to identify best practices and challenges, and work with Legion departments to establish coordinators at the state level.

While conducting the survey, the Legion was overwhelmed with responses from women who were grateful that someone had reached out to determine their needs. After years of being met with silence and indifference, they feel that someone is finally listening. The Legion urges VA, Congress and other interested parties to heed those words and refocus attention on the VA health-care needs of women.

The Women Veterans Outreach Program

The American Legion's Women Veterans Outreach Program was created as a direct result of the findings from a March 2011 Women Veterans Survey Report. The results of the survey, along with recent GAO reporting – even VA's own reporting – raised troubling questions about the department's understanding and treatment of female veterans in the VA health-care system, and led the Legion to increase its efforts to improve care for women who have served in uniform.

The Women Veterans Outreach Program is moving forward on a number of fronts. Initial efforts have focused on laying the groundwork for a viable and effective program. The Legion's platform is to educate, collaborate, and provide oversight; to educate veterans and the communities that support them; to collaborate with local, state and federal agencies that can provide needed services; and to provide continued oversight of VA's delivery of benefits and services. Legion advocacy efforts will ensure that the needs of female veterans are being met and, more importantly, that female veterans are informed about issues that can profoundly affect their lives.

Initial program implementation will include the placement of women veteran outreach coordinators at the state level. Many states already have such coordinators and vibrant programs, while others continue to develop their programs. Coordinators will be trained and educated in their responsibilities and given the necessary assistance to get their programs up and running.

The American Legion's continued focus on female veterans will ensure that our outreach program will be a model for others to follow.

A LEGACY OF AMERICAN LEGION SERVICE

At the conclusion of World War I, U.S. veterans returned home to parades but little else.

There was no comprehensive medical care, disability compensation, vocational training, effective treatment for "shell shock" or brain injuries, or pensions for veterans' survivors.

And there was no national organization dedicated to helping war heroes.

Instead, these servicemen and women who defended the United States in the First World War were expected to return home and resume their lives as if nothing had happened. There was no support system in place to heal the physical and mental wounds from the poison gases, trench warfare and other elements of modern warfare in the early 20th century.

These brave soldiers, sailors and Marines answered the government's call. But the government was not prepared to return the favor.

Instead, a group of men and women who served in the Armed Forces took it upon themselves to forge The American Legion, a proud national organization dedicated to veterans, current servicemembers, their families, the youths of America and ordinary citizens. The American Legion was formally chartered by Congress in 1919, committed to four key pillars that still stand today: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth.

The Legion, conceived primarily by Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., embraced the mission to follow Lincoln's post-bellum call for America to "care for him who

shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan." Working through a rapidly multiplying network of community posts, The American Legion became the nation's largest self-help organization. The Legion established tuberculosis hospitals, found employment for veterans, launched a program of monetary grants to assist widows and orphans, and assisted those suffering from the mental wounds of war.

It was this commitment to veterans that would soon lead The American Legion to a discovery that would shock the nation.

In 1923, The Legion conducted a nationwide survey to ascertain how World War I veterans were readjusting to civilian life.

The results were startling. Some veterans of the Great War were homeless, suffering from what we know today as PTSD; not a few were housed in jails, mental institutions and county homes. Too many had given up on life, had no hope and no future. It was not uncommon to see former "doughboys," without arms or legs, selling apples and pencils on the street corners of America, just trying to survive.

The public outcry was loud and clear. The result was the creation of the Veterans Administration, an entity that consolidated under one roof the services of many government agencies that had a small piece of the rehabilitation pie. Today, that agency has grown to become the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Federal and state laws were enacted, based on Legion advice gathered from thousands of its service officers working with veterans and their families, one on one, in the communities where they lived.

Those laws brought compensation for veterans who had suffered service-connected disabilities. They built a nationwide system of veterans hospitals and clinics and established veterans homes, veterans cemeteries, and pensions for the surviving spouses of those who had given their lives for our country.

Thanks in no small part to the diligence and vision of The American Legion, "shell shock" has been re-diagnosed as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD); exposure to Agent Orange is now a recognized service-connected disability due to a study conducted by The American Legion and Columbia University; veterans suffering from mesothelioma, a cancer resulting from exposure to asbestos, and illness because of exposure to ionizing radiation and its resulting cancers, are both now recognized service-connected disabilities. The list is long and grows each year.

Most, if not all, of those conditions were called to the attention of our government, thanks to the Legion's work with veterans through its Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Commission.

The American Legion's founders envisioned a future of honor, respect and prosperity for military veterans and the nation they vowed to protect and defend. That vision brought into existence the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, known as the GI Bill. The American Legion is recognized as the organization that wrote and created the bill, which ushered in monumental changes in U.S. society. Thanks to the GI bill, higher education became democratized after 8 million veterans went to school on their education benefits, obtained better

jobs, bought houses in the suburbs and raised families.

The program's success is especially impressive, considering that the bill passed a House and Senate conference committee by only one vote, and yet has come to be known as one of the greatest pieces of social legislation ever conceived, triggering a half-century of American economic prosperity. For every dollar spent on educating World War II-era veterans, the U.S. economy eventually got $7 back.

The American Legion still believes in the vision of its founders, a vision for a strong America – freedom and opportunity. And The American Legion firmly believes that veterans and their families have earned every benefit awarded to them by a grateful nation because of their selfless service. Indeed, this basic principle was succinctly written into law when the Supreme Court stated in 1983:

"It is ... not irrational for Congress to decide that, even though it will not subsidize substantial lobbying by charities generally, it will subsidize lobbying by veterans' organizations. Veterans have 'been obliged to drop their own affairs and take up the burdens of the nation, subjecting themselves to the mental and physical hazards as well as the economic and family detriments which are peculiar to military service and which do not exist in normal civil life.' Our country has a long-standing policy of compensating veterans for their past contributions by providing them numerous advantages. This policy has 'always been deemed to be legitimate.'"

Nearly a century of service

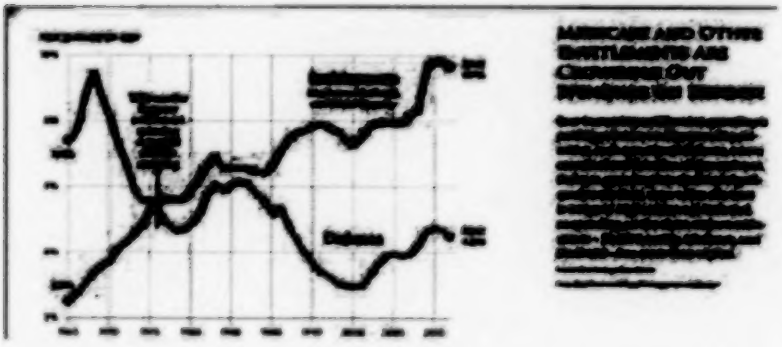
1. Legionnaires have been at the bedsides of wounded and sick veterans since the end of World

War I, when disabled veterans were often institutionalized in asylums. The Legion helped create the Veterans Administration.

2. President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, the original GI Bill, one of the most significant pieces of social legislation in the 20th century.

3. Legionnaires for decades have coordinated and promoted job and career fairs for veterans.

4. American Legion members today spend time at military bases or reach out to returning servicemembers, reconnecting with a new generation of wartime veterans



PILLAR 2: NATIONAL SECURITY

To those who have sworn with their lives to protect America against enemies near and far, national security is a deeply held value. The terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 exposed this nation's vulnerabilities and magnified the importance of this value - not only for military veterans, but for all Americans. Since then, The American Legion has passed national resolutions supporting and reconfirming its support for the Global War on Terrorism and for all who have critical responsibilities in fighting it: the White House; Congress; departments of Defense, State and Homeland Security; and, foremost, the troops and civilians protecting U.S. interests at home and abroad from terrorist acts.

The American Legion's national security position is multi-faceted. Key aspects include:

- Ensuring a well-funded, well-equipped and well-trained military.
- Focusing awareness and surveillance on rogue nations, terrorist groups and global threats to U.S. security around the world.
- Supporting the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and urging its steadfast protection of U.S. borders, ports and other entry points.
- Enabling a decent quality of life for troops and their families – active duty and reserve-component alike – that includes reasonable

compensation, benefits, health care, child care, and family support programs.

- Providing an efficient and compassionate healing and transition program for wounded, ill or injured warriors.

Also within the Legion's national security pillar is the Foreign Relations Commission that works closely with the Department of State to seek peaceful solutions to conflicts around the world, and to advance the goals of U.S. foreign policy.

The American Legion's national security positions include these key areas:

Strong National Defense

A strong, adequately funded U.S. military is essential for global peace and prosperity in the 21st century. As the world's sole superpower, the United States must be able to deter aggression while maintaining the ability to fight and win wars when necessary. Our adversaries should have no doubt about America's resolve and means to respond with overwhelming force when national interests are threatened. Today, however, with the United States facing mounting debt obligations and unprecedented deficit projections, the defense budget has become an easy target. Nevertheless, The American Legion opposes any further decreases in U.S. defense spending.

As the chart below shows, "ever-increasing entitlement spending is putting pressure on key spending priorities such as national defense, a core constitutional function of government. Defense spending has declined significantly over time, even when the

wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are included, as spending on the three major entitlements — Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid — has more than tripled." While the Iraq War is over and the Afghanistan War is winding down, the United States and its allies still face a dangerous and unstable world.

As part of the Budget Control Act of 2011, caps were placed on the defense budget and other forms of discretionary spending. In implementing these budgetary caps, the Obama administration proposed in its FY 2013 budget to cut Pentagon spending by roughly $487 billion over the next decade. In addition, because Congress failed to meet the act's deadline to reduce the long-term deficit by $1.2 trillion, the Pentagon now faces the worst-case scenario: current law now requires additional across-the-board, automatic cuts (sequestration) to the Pentagon budget, totaling more than $500 billion over 10 years.

A wide range of America's civilian and military leaders have voiced grave concerns about the danger of further defense cuts, which would dangerously weaken America's standing in the world and undermine our leadership among allies. Furthermore, after more than a decade of warfare in Iraq and Afghanistan, U.S. military hardware is in need of replacement and modernization, and our troops deserve the hard-earned benefits of service. We risk leaving our military a "hollow" force like that of the post-Vietnam War era, which took years to rebuild.

Therefore, The American Legion recommends an increase in U.S. defense spending to levels that represent 5 percent of gross domestic product. The Legion recommends that sufficient funding be pro-

vided to modernize the Army; strengthen the Navy's shipbuilding program; build Air Force fighters, tankers and specialty aircraft; develop national missile defense and cyberspace defense systems; and support NASA to retain dominance in outer space. The Legion urges DoD to use American companies whenever possible for military procurement.

The Legion also advocates greater military force end-strength to reduce stress on the reserves and National Guard, decrease the number of extended deployments and better position the United States in the event of a sudden national security emergency.

MILITARY QUALITY OF LIFE

Disabled military retirees have earned and deserve full concurrent receipt of their DoD retirement pay and their VA disability compensation, which come from separate budgets for separate purposes. Today, too many disabled military retirees are still forced to choose one or the other in what has become known as the "disabled veterans tax."

Military health-care programs must be fully funded without additional enrollment fees or co-payment increases for beneficiaries. TRICARE coverage should also be made permanent for members of the reserves.

Servicemembers who sustain injuries or illnesses while on active duty must be given fair and timely discharge processing, and their transition to civilian life and/or VA health care made seamless. The American Legion strongly supports a continuum of care for disabled veterans after they return to civilian life. The Legion encourages swift and efficient action to integrate various federal departments, agencies and programs to improve the transition process and sustain the continuum of care.

Homeland Security

Since 9/11 and the devastating hurricanes of 2005, America has become acutely aware of the danger posed by terrorist attacks and catastrophic disasters on U.S. soil. The American Legion works closely with government at all levels to improve disaster readiness in local communities and, at the national level, to ensure that a well-funded and efficient DHS is prepared for any catastrophic event.

DHS was created in the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks. Since the inception of DHS, the Legion has supported the department's intent, purpose and arrangement: to harmonize myriad agencies, offices, businesses, community groups and others with readiness responsibilities and quick-response capabilities. The Legion is an active contributor to that effort on the local and national levels, and concurs with the DHS mission to coordinate domestic security - including effective customs operations and drug interdiction.

To help with that effort, the Legion supports funding for the U.S. Coast Guard's "deep water" initiatives to rebuild its fleet and modernize assets to more effectively fulfill responsibilities in maritime safety, law enforcement, homeland security, environmental protection and national defense.

Immigration Enforcement

The Pew Research Center has estimated that 11.2 million illegal immigrants lived in the United States in 2010. DHS's Office of Audits claims that, each year, more than one million aliens attempt to illegally enter this country without proper documentation or enter legally and violate their visas.

A broad exchange of intelligence and related action is needed among the Department of Justice and regulatory agencies that govern immigration policy and social services. Federal agencies must use modern systems and technology to aggressively track foreign nationals as a deterrent to terrorist activities. Failure to properly monitor illegal aliens threatens the security and future of America.

The American Legion urges Congress to adopt an immigration reform policy which emphasizes border

security against those individuals attempting to enter this country illegally, and internal tracking of all resident aliens and illegal immigrants. The Legion opposes legislation granting amnesty and legal residency to illegal immigrants currently in the United States.

The Legion also opposes any change to Title V of the "Immigration and Nationality Act" (8 U.S.C. 1531-1537) that would require revealing the source(s) of secret evidence used in administrative deportation hearings by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

The Legion encourages the federal government to provide sufficient resources to enforcement agencies tasked with curtailing illegal immigration, and encourages Congress to mandate continuation of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Student and Exchange Visitor Information System.

Foreign Relations

As the leader of the free world, the United States has great and multiple responsibilities. The American Legion encourages increased federal funding for foreign relations and international affairs, and for the Department of State's continuing efforts to seek peaceful and diplomatic solutions to world conflicts. More funding should also be given to the Department of State's Civilian Response Corps initiative for deployment before, during or after armed conflict.

The Legion strongly supports the State Department and the functions it performs for American citizens overseas; it is the country's first line of defense in combating the myriad security threats that face America from outside its borders. Therefore, the Legion vigorously supports increased fund-

ing for the department, so it can maintain a credible initial deterrent to international threats to the United States and effectively promote American interests abroad.

The Legion also urges the president, Congress and the Department of State to significantly increase the number of foreign service officers in its ranks and to implement a veterans preference policy to enhance America's diplomatic missions by recruiting more qualified and experienced veterans.

In addition, the Legion recommends enhanced funding for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) within the Department of State, and recommends such funding be targeted for nations that may become sources of international terrorism.

Full Accounting of American POW/MIAs

A sacred value of The American Legion is the full accounting and repatriation of fallen U.S. servicemembers. The Legion supports Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command activities to locate and repatriate all recoverable remains of U.S. military personnel who have died or are missing in foreign battle zones.

IN THE EVENT OF A NATURAL DISASTER

To The American Legion, the provision of security for the nation includes protection of its citizens from the devastating financial effects of natural disasters. In the 1920s, not long after the organization's founding, the Legion entered into an agreement with The American Red Cross to assist in disaster relief and fundraising. The collaboration continued for about a

half century until, in the wake of Hurricane Hugo in 1989, the Legion created an autonomous disaster-relief entity, the National Emergency Fund (NEF).

The NEF assists stricken American Legion family members with immediate monetary assistance. Since its inception, the NEF has provided over $7.5 million in direct financial aid to members and posts. In 2011, for instance, 314 NEF disaster relief grants totaling $345,300 were awarded to veterans and their families. These NEF grants included those provided after the spring tornadoes and floods that hit the South and Midwest, leaving behind a trail of devastation. Among the victims assisted by NEF so far in 2012 are those displaced by Indiana tornadoes in early spring.

The National Emergency Fund is not the only source of American Legion disaster relief. At the grassroots level, Legion posts such as Post 210 in Montgomery, Ala., are always ready to assist. In 2011, Post 210 members came to the aid of tornado victims in Tuscaloosa, 100 miles away. Legionnaires and their neighbors spent two nights sorting and boxing donated goods such as food and clothing before heading to the storm-ravaged college town.

HEROES TO HOMETOWNS

An example of a prominent American Legion national security program is Heroes to Hometowns. Nationally and locally, the Legion works closely with the Department of Defense (DoD) to connect returning, service-disabled veterans with local resources to help them and their families.

With 14,000 posts worldwide, the Legion assists veterans and families of wounded military personnel as they transition back to civilian and community life, using the VA health-care system, TRICARE or TRICARE for Life.

Last year, Heroes to Hometowns assisted more than 1,100 veterans.

PILLAR 3: AMERICANISM

The nation's cultural, moral and patriotic values have been under attack for decades, a disheartening trend that continues today. Prayer has been removed from schools. The U.S. Flag is no longer protected from desecration. The Boy Scouts of America have faced serious legal challenges in some communities they serve. Immigration laws are defied. References to God on U.S. currency, in the Pledge of Allegiance and on public monuments have been challenged by a minority of voices whose vision for America is far different than that of our founding fathers.

The American Legion is an organization dedicated to God and country, with a membership of military veterans who take deep pride in the U.S. Flag and all that it means. Since its inception nearly 100 years ago, the Legion has been a stalwart champion of patriotic values, morals, culture and citizenship. The Legion's pillar of Americanism embodies its devotion to law and order, the raising of wholesome youth, an educated and law-abiding citizenship, and respectful observance of patriotic holidays and remembrances.

For the 2012 election year, The American Legion's priorities for Americanism are:

U.S. Flag Protection

The U.S. Constitution should be amended to add the following: "The Congress shall have power to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States." The Legion joins all of the states and an overwhelming majority of citizens in declaring that the American flag deserves legal protection from acts of public and intentional acts of physical dese-

cration. In 1989, the U.S. Supreme Court declared flag desecration to be a "right" protected by the First Amendment. The Legion disagreed at the time, and now reaffirms its position that flag desecration is a form of conduct – not speech – that can and should be regulated by law.

All 50 state legislatures have petitioned Congress for a constitutional amendment that would give power to Congress to prohibit such conduct. Such an amendment has passed the House of Representatives six times but has fallen short of the two-thirds majority required to pass the Senate (despite polls showing that about 80 percent of Americans support flag protection). The end of the 111th Congress marked only the second time in more than 16 years when there was no floor vote on a flag protection amendment. As a symbol of our nation, the U.S. Flag belongs to the people, who should be given the power to protect it. The Legion's position on its protection is inviolate.

Illegal Immigration

Illegal immigration stands as one of the most serious problems facing America, with millions of illegal immigrants inside our borders, and billions of dollars spent providing them with social services, education and jobs. The American Legion supports legal and manageable immigration. The Legion adamantly opposes illegal immigration, any kind of amnesty for those who enter America illegally, and ineffective measures to prevent illegal border crossings - particularly during a time of war against terrorism and drug trafficking.

The Legion's strategy to combat illegal immigration calls for strong border security, including physical

barriers and high-tech surveillance methods; the elimination of economic and social-service benefits for illegal immigrants; employer sanctions against those who knowingly hire illegal immigrants; and the enforcement of existing immigration laws. The Legion also supports new laws that deny drivers' licenses to illegal immigrants, establish parameters for deporting non-criminals, and the designation of English as the official language of the United States. The Legion's position on immigration seeks to eliminate the visa lottery program, create new visa categories for agricultural workers (to replace those working illegally), and authorize the tracking of foreign visitors, including college students, members of the media and the diplomatic corps.

Voter Registration and Participation

The American Legion connects good government with active citizen participation in the electoral process. American Legion posts throughout the country offer their services and facilities to enable voter registration and promote turnout at the polls. Posts also provide facilities and opportunities for nonpartisan voter-education forums and debates.

It is important to note that, under provisions of its federal charter, the Legion is prohibited from supporting, opposing or providing aid to any political party, or any candidate for public office.

The American Legion vigorously opposes attempts to strip the Boy Scouts of public support, sponsorship and facility space, due to the organization's membership or leadership criteria. The Scouts teach important skills, build character, and provide a healthy and wholesome outlet for young Americans. The organization should not be punished or persecuted

for using the term "God" in its oath, or for setting leadership restrictions based on a moral code that the majority of Americans endorse.

The Pledge of Allegiance

Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance by students and teachers in our nation's schools should be a regular part of school activities and events. In support of keeping "under God" in the Pledge, The American Legion affirms that pledging allegiance to the U.S. Flag is the voluntary offering of a patriotic oath to the nation; no one should be denied this opportunity. The removal of these words will set a precedent that questions the propriety of numerous references to a supreme being in historical documents, on currency, and on many government buildings (including the U.S. Supreme Court).

Establishment Clause Lawsuits

The American Legion is dedicated to combating the secular cleansing of our American heritage, performed through lawsuits that attack the Boy Scouts, the public display of the Ten Commandments and other symbols of America's religious history. The authority given by Congress to the courts to impose damages, or attorney fees, in establishment-clause cases is being used by legal activists to compel municipalities, state and federal agencies, and private groups to cast off all religious association.

Often, these proceedings are based on the pursuit of tax-funded attorney fees. The Legion supports legislation to expressly preclude courts from awarding attorney fees in lawsuits brought to remove or destroy religious symbols.

LEGION CONNECTS YOUTH TO COMMUNITY, STATE AND NATION

Youth activity programs of The American Legion are designed to stimulate physical, mental and moral growth; cultivate strong character and wholesome ideals with appreciation for our heritage of freedom; and develop a devotion to civic responsibility. Among the Legion's programs for youth are:

High School Oratorical

Students participating in The American Legion's High School Oratorical Scholarship Program gain a deeper knowledge of constitutional principles as they prepare and deliver orations based on some aspect of the U.S. Constitution, with emphasis upon a citizen's duties and obligations to government. Alumni of this Legion program include television news anchor Lou Dobbs and talk-show host Alan Keyes, a former presidential candidate who was the Legion's national oratorical champion and - in the same year - president of the Legion's Boys Nation.

Junior Law Cadet

American Legion Junior Law Cadet is a participative law enforcement vocational learning program that exposes high school students to realistic and demanding training, patterned after authentic recruit training.

Boys State and Boys Nation

Thousands of young men learn the function and powers of government through American Legion Boys State, as they set up and operate their own "governments," fashioned after municipal, county and state structures. Boys State alumni include state legislators, governors, members of Congress, a

former vice president and president of the United States, and an associate justice currently sitting on the U.S. Supreme Court. An extension of the Boys State experience is The American Legion Boys Nation. Two outstanding delegates from each Boys State program are selected to represent their state at American Legion Boys Nation, where the young men establish a Boys Nation Senate based upon rules of the U.S. Senate.

Several departments of The American Legion also sponsor County Government Days. For 68 years, the Legion in Nebraska has sponsored such a day across the state, helping high school juniors observe firsthand the workings of local government. Approximately 5,000 students from more than 60 counties participate each year. A partnership with the U.S. Army National Guard in Nebraska helps the Legion cover costs. The American Legion in Kansas sponsors a County Government Day program similar to Boys State, except the government students in each participating high school file for office, campaign and vote in a primary and general election within their school. Students have the opportunity to visit their local courthouse and spend a day learning about duties and responsibilities of county officials. Speakers are heard, and a mock trial is usually observed. The program enjoys cooperation from school and county officials.

Junior Shooting Sports

The American Legion's Junior Shooting Sports Program provides gun safety and marksmanship training for young people. It is recognized as one of the premier programs in the country, with one of its

alumni - Launi Meili - becoming the 1992 Olympic Gold Medalist in

American Legion Baseball

Each year, nearly 90,000 athletes participate in American Legion Baseball, the nation's oldest and most-respected amateur baseball program. Legion posts sponsor teams in all 50 states and Puerto Rico, giving young men wholesome, healthy activity and lessons in sportsmanship, loyalty, respect for rules and fair play. Many of the greatest names in the sport spent their teen-age summers in American Legion Baseball uniforms. Hall of Famers such as Dave Winfield, Rollie Fingers, Reggie Jackson and Yogi Berra still speak of the influence Legion ball has had on their lives and careers. To date, 59 major league players and one umpire who played Legion ball have been inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y.

Berra, the legendary New York Yankees catcher, also served as a gunner's mate in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Although Berra played on teams with Mickey Mantle, Whitey Ford, Roger Maris and other legendary players, he said, "The most fun I ever had playing baseball was when I played American Legion Baseball."

THE AMERICANISM COMMISSION

The American Legion's Americanism Commission is home to numerous programs that provide and foster healthy, wholesome and educational opportunities for young people, including:

- American Legion Baseball
- Boys Nation and Boys State

- The National High School Oratorical Competition
- Junior Law Cadet
- American Legion Junior Shooting Sports
- The American Legion Legacy Scholarship Fund (for children of servicemembers who have died on active duty since Sept. 11, 2001)
- Eagle Scout of the Year Scholarship
- The Samsung American Legion Scholarship
- The "Need a Lift?" college financial aid guide
- Flag education
- School Medal Awards

THE SAMSUNG AMERICAN LEGION SCHOLARSHIP

After researching dozens of veterans organizations, Samsung Group, a worldwide leader in electronics, chose The American Legion in 1995 to administer an endowed scholarship fund of $5 million. The endowment was established to show appreciation to U.S. veterans who came to the aid of South Korea during its struggle against Communist forces in the Korean War. The scholarship is for undergraduate study only and may be used for tuition, books, fees, and room and board.

Seven to 10 students are chosen each year for the $20,000 scholarships, which are awarded to direct descendants of U.S. wartime veterans.

U.S. FLAG PROTOCOL

The American Legion educates youths on U.S. Flag etiquette to build patriotism and create respect for the flag. The Legion provides education materials that cover a range of topics such as the proper ways to fold, display and dispose of U.S. Flags.

PILLAR 4: CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Today's young people face an array of societal pressures. The dissolution of the traditional American family, illegal drug use, TV shows and movies filled with obscenities and indecencies. There is an alarming increase in bullying, aided by the spread of smart phones and social media.

Gone are the care-free days when children spent their summers playing baseball on vacant lots, lounging in tree houses and riding bikes around town.

The American Legion's National Commission on Children & Youth is guided by three main objectives: to strengthen the family unit, work with quality organizations that provide services for children and provide communities with well-rounded programs that meet the needs of young people.

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation provides more than $500,000 in grants each year to nonprofit organizations that work to improve the lives of young people. Such grants have benefited organ-donor campaigns, supported efforts to help military children cope with deployments or loss of a parent, and funded projects that increased public awareness of Huntington's disease, autism, Reyes syndrome, meningitis, spina bifida, diabetes, cancer and other debilitating conditions.

Since its founding in 1919, The American Legion has been a staunch supporter of children and youth. The National Commission on Children & Youth continues that commitment today, as it seeks to improve the well-being of all children. The key to the future of a free and prosperous country, expressed by every generation of veterans, is held by the children

and youth of today. The Legion strongly supports traditional family values, assistance for at-risk children and activities that promote their healthy and wholesome development. While there is no way of knowing what issues will face our youth tomorrow, our survival may well depend on the quality of care, education and training that we, as parents and citizens, provide for the young people of today.

The American Legion's Children & Youth pillar's most critical issues are:

Child Pornography. The Legion opposes any attempts to weaken U.S. laws governing production, sale and distribution of pornographic materials.

Catastrophic Illness. The American Legion supports legislation to provide financial assistance to families with children who suffer catastrophic illnesses.

Intellectual Disabilities. The Legion supports research, and early intervention efforts, to prevent intellectual disabilities, to include research on the development and function of the nervous system, fetal treatments, and gene therapy to correct abnormalities from defective genes; and early intervention programs with high-risk infants and kids.

Immunization for Needy Children. The Legion urges federal funding for state and local health agencies to insure that medically indigent children are afforded the opportunity to receive needed vaccines and treatment.

Family Integrity. The Legion promotes the family as the cornerstone of society and supports National Family Week each November. The Legion further recognizes that the natural family is a fundamental

unit, inscribed in human nature and centered on the voluntary union of a man and woman in a lifelong covenant of marriage.

Media Violence. The American Legion supports appropriate state and federal legislation to restrict the excessive use of violence, vulgarity and immoral expressions in movies, television programs, news broadcasts, video games and the Internet.

Drug Abuse. The American Legion fully supports adequate funding for border, state, federal and military drug-trafficking prevention programs to keep illegal substances from reaching our nation's youth.

Child Sexual Exploitation. The Legion supports appropriate laws aimed at the prevention, investigation and prosecution of child sexual exploitation, and seeks to empower the public to take urgent and direct action to enforce a zero-tolerance policy.

TEMPORARY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Facing a third deployment overseas, one servicemember had his activation orders delayed twice. His civilian job replacement had already been hired and he was unable to pay his rent. He turned to his local American Legion post for help, and the answer to this family's crisis came in the form of the Legion's Temporary Financial

Assistance (TFA) program. Through TFA, a local Legion post can call upon the national organization for cash assistance to help meet the basic needs of minor children of eligible veterans and servicemembers, when all other sources of assistance have been exhausted. Working through national headquarters,

the Legion post was able to secure cash-grant assistance for he and his family, which paid the rent and bridged the pay gap - thereby ensuring that his two children and wife would remain in their home.

Money for TFA comes through the American Legion Endowment Fund. In 2011, 1,358 children were helped by TFA, amounting to more than $635,786 in disbursements.

FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK

The American Legion's Family Support Network is ready to provide immediate assistance to U.S. military personnel and their families whose lives have been directly affected by the war on terrorism.

When National Guardsmen and reservists are mobilized, their families often find themselves unable to meet normal monthly expenses, and in need of assistance for a variety of everyday chores such as grocery shopping, child care, mowing the grass, fixing the car and other routine household jobs.

To address these issues, the Legion has a nationwide toll-free telephone number (800) 504-4098, for service-members and their families to call for assistance. Requests also can be made online at www.legion.org/fsn. All inquiries are referred to The American Legion department in which the call originated. Departments relay the collected information to a local American Legion post. The post then contacts the servicemember or family to see how assistance can be provided. Since the creation of the Family Support Network during the Gulf War, thousands of posts have responded to meet military families' needs.

Posts are reminded that families in financial need with minor children are encouraged to call on the Temporary Financial Assistance program at national headquarters to assist. Otherwise, it is up to local posts to provide or develop sufficient resources to meet the need.

Thousands of requests through the Family Support Network are received every year at all levels of The American Legion, with national headquarters alone receiving 2,153 requests in 2011. Most cases are

handled locally, without notification or involvement from the national organization. Creating an ongoing and active relationship with local military units allows posts to respond immediately when needs arise.

THE AMERICAN LEGION CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION

The foremost philanthropic priority of The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation is to provide other nonprofit organizations with grants to educate the public about the needs of children across the nation. For 2012, the foundation awarded $506,683 in grants to 18 nonprofit organizations to support programs that help children and youth:

- Alström Syndrome International of Mount Desert, Maine, received $13,125.
- American Humane Association of Englewood, Colo., received $35,250.
- Angel Flight Soars, Inc., of Atlanta, received $16,564.
- Autism Speaks, Inc., of New York received $22,500.
- Be The Match Foundation of Minneapolis received $16,050.
- Birth Defect Research for Children of Orlando, Fla., received $18,500.
- Children's Institute, Inc., of Rochester, N.Y., received $9,500.

- Mercy Medical Airlift of Virginia Beach, Va., received $43,400.
- National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth of Minneapolis received $41,000.
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children of Alexandria, Va., received $25,500.
- Organization for Autism Research of Arlington, Va., received $49,355.
- Second Wind Fund, Inc., of Lakewood, Colo., received $23,724.
- Starr Commonwealth - National Institute for Trauma and Loss in Children of Albion, Mich., received $20,000.
- Texas National Guard Family Support Foundation of Austin received $40,000.
- The American Legion Department of Kansas in Topeka received $32,000.
- ThinkFirst Foundation of Naperville, Ill., received $25,715.
- Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, Inc., of Washington, D.C., received $25,000.
- The American Legion Department of Arizona/Sons of The

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American Legion Detachment of Arizona in Phoenix received $49,500.

RIDERS WITH A CAUSE

While the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are drawing down, some servicemen and women won't be settling back into civilian life. They are among the thousands who gave their lives for our nation during those wars.

Now our nation and The American Legion honor their memories by assisting their children in earning college degrees. The American Legion Legacy Scholarship, established in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, was created to help young people whose parents lost their lives serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

These children are eligible for federal aid toward their college educations. However, as the escalating cost of college tuition has continued, more help is needed. It is especially difficult for single-parent households to afford the entire cost of college education at this time.

That's where the Legion's Legacy Scholarship comes in. The goal for the fund is to raise $20 million - enough to allow just the principal to cover college education years from now. To achieve that goal, the Legion counts on one of its most popular and fastest-growing programs: The American Legion Riders.

Riders chapters are well known for their charitable work, which has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for local children's hospitals, schools, veterans homes, severely wounded servicemembers and scholarships. Since 2006, Riders across the United States have joined forces for the Legion Legacy Run, an annual event to raise money for the Legacy Scholarship Fund. The Riders have been a major

contributor to the fund, which now totals more than $5.7 million.

In 2012, The American Legion Legacy Run from Niagara Falls, N.Y., to national convention in Indianapolis attracted more than 400 riders.

LEGACY SCHOLARSHIPS

The American Legion Legacy Scholarship has awarded scholarship money while also growing its principal:

2004

One scholarship of $2,000 awarded.

2005

Three $2,000 scholarships awarded.

2006

Six $5,000 scholarships awarded.

2007

Eight scholarships awarded for $4,500 each.

2008

Eleven scholarships awarded for $3,720 each.

2009

Sixteen scholarships for $2,250 awarded.

2010

Ten scholarships at $4,000 each; three scholarships at $2,000 each.

2011

Twenty-one scholarships at $2,275 each and two at $1,100 each.

2012

Eighteen scholarships at $2,775 each.

American Legion National Contacts

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation

(202) 263-5759

var@legion.org

Economic

(202) 263-5771

economicdivision@legion.org

Legislative

(202) 263-5752

leg@legion.org

National Security/Foreign Relations

(202) 263-5765

nsfr@legion.org

Americanism/Children & Youth

(317) 630-1203

acy@legion.org

Public Relations

(317) 630-1253

pr@legion.org

The American Legion Magazine

(317) 630-1298

magazine@legion.org

The American Legion Online Update

(317) 630-1272

eltr@legion.org

414
The American Legion
P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206
317.630.1200
www.legion.org
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